9 771125 540009 00043>

The Walt Disney Company Italia S.p.A. - Mensile n. 43 - LUGLIO 2009 - Spedizione in abb. post. 70% fil. Verona - www.disney.it - *Italy only

LIRE 4000
EURO 2,07*

PKNA #43

Walt Disney MAGAZINES

PK

PAPERINIK NEW ADVENTURES

TIME TO TIME

The Walt Disney Company Italia S.p.A. - Mensile n. 43 - LUGLIO 2008 - Spedizione in abb. post. 70% fil. Verona - www.disney.it - *Italy only

LIRE 4000
EURO 2,07*

PKNA #43

Walt Disney MAGAZINES

TOPOLINO

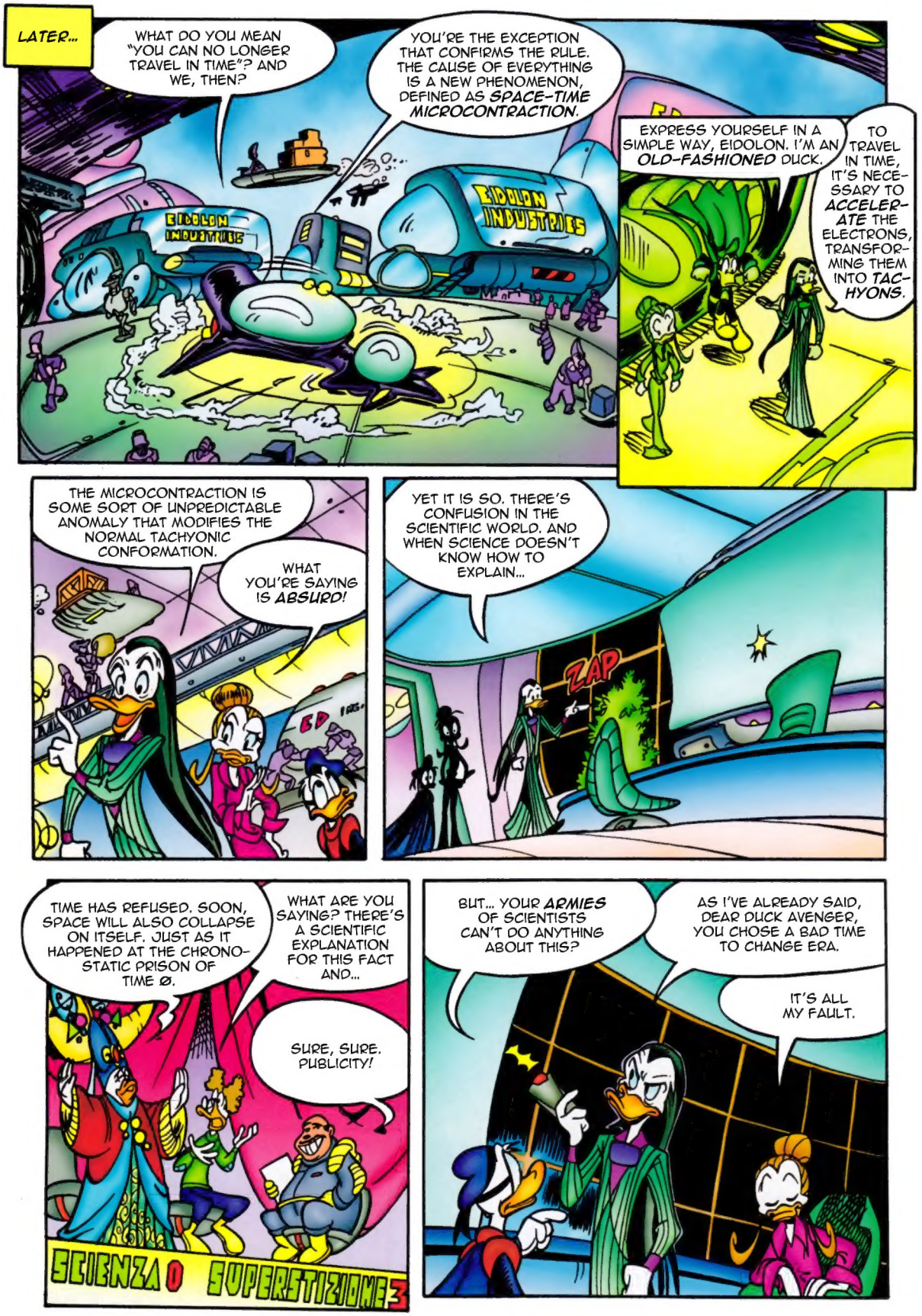
PAPERINIK NEW ADVENTURES

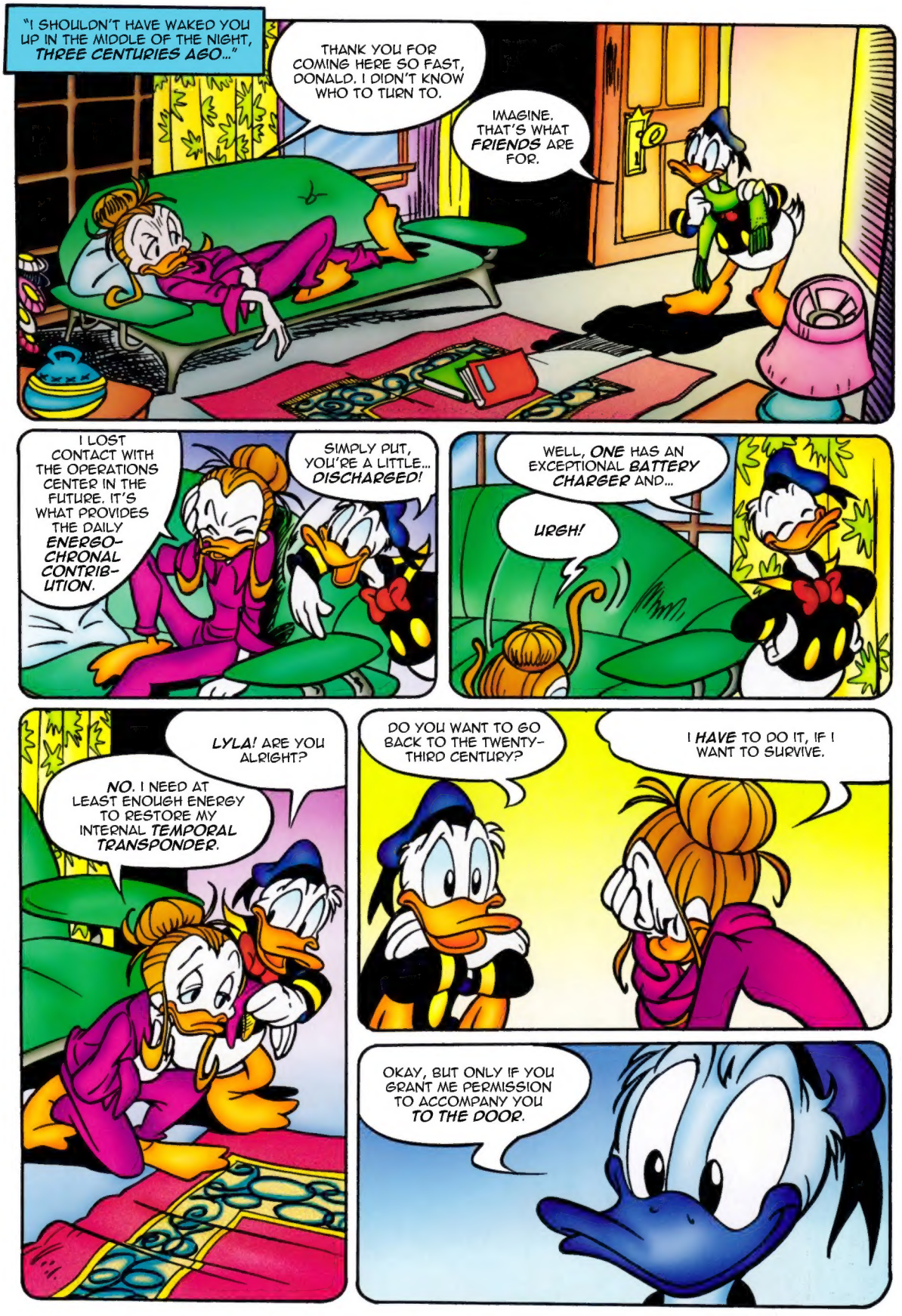
TIME TO TIME

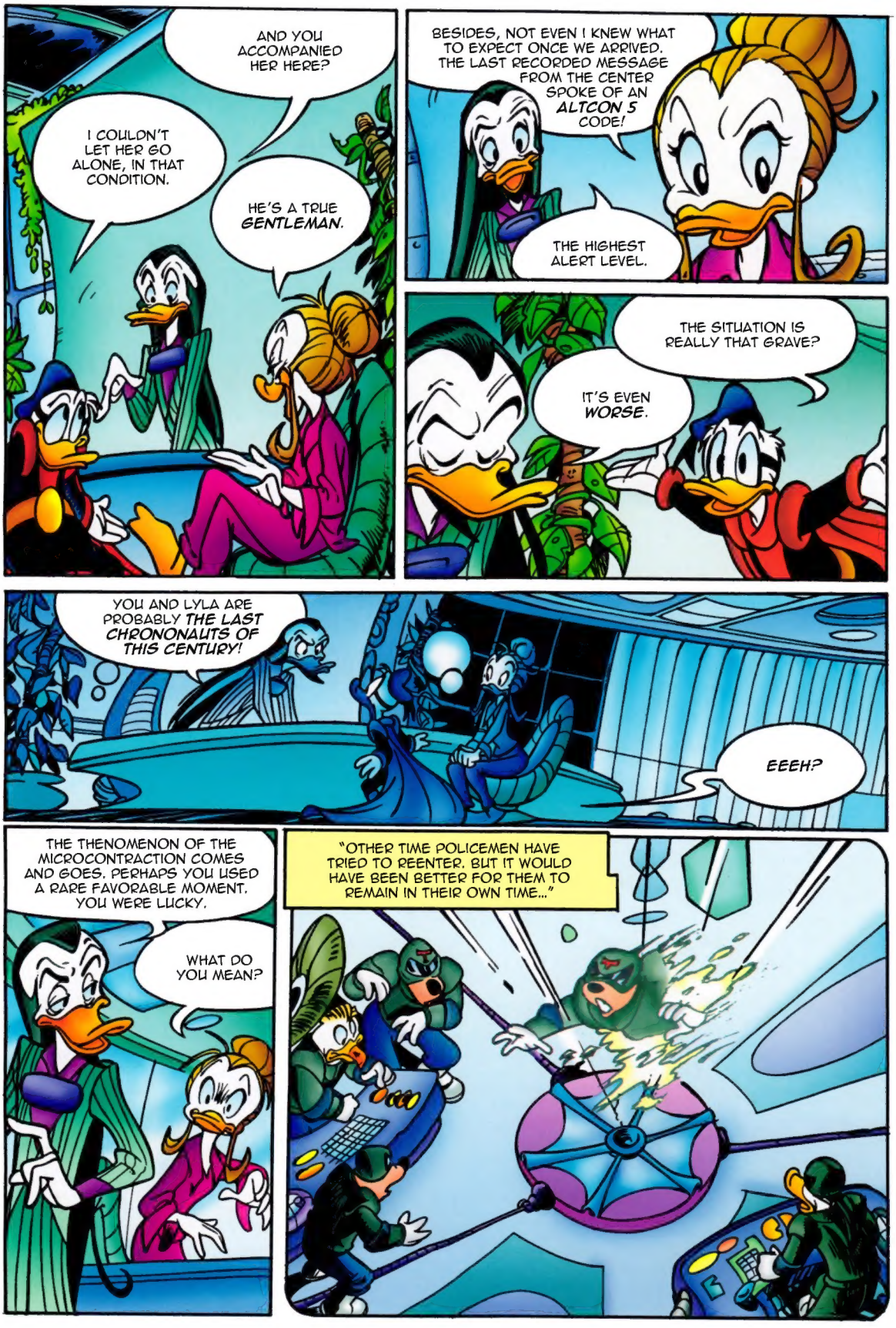
SILENCE, HOURS! STOP, MINUTES! YOUR LORD AND MASTER ORDERS YOU TO REFLECT ON THE DESTINY OF MAN!
MAN! THE ONE WHO HAS GONE TOO FAR, CROSSING MY CORRIDORS, PEEKING INTO MY ROOM, HIDING IN THE FOLDS OF MY CLOTHES!
THERE'S NO CREATURE IN THE UNIVERSE EQUALLY OUTRAGEOUS AND IRREVERENT! NO ONE ELSE PRETENDS TO BE RIDING THE MATTER AND WITH IMPUNITY CROWD MY SPACE!
Walt Disney
BUT FROM TODAY I'M CLOSING MY ONE HUNDRED GATES. I'LL TAKE BACK WHAT'S MINE, INSTANT BY INSTANT!
NO MORTAL CAN MAKE A FOOL OF ME! NO...
OKAY, OKAY! I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE A TAD ANTSY, BUT I WANT TO SAY THAT THIS IS JUST A DREAM! MY DREAM!
HAVING CLARIFIED THIS FACT, IT BEGS THE QUESTION...
WHO ARE YOU?
TEMPO
AL
I-PKNA-43
TEMPO

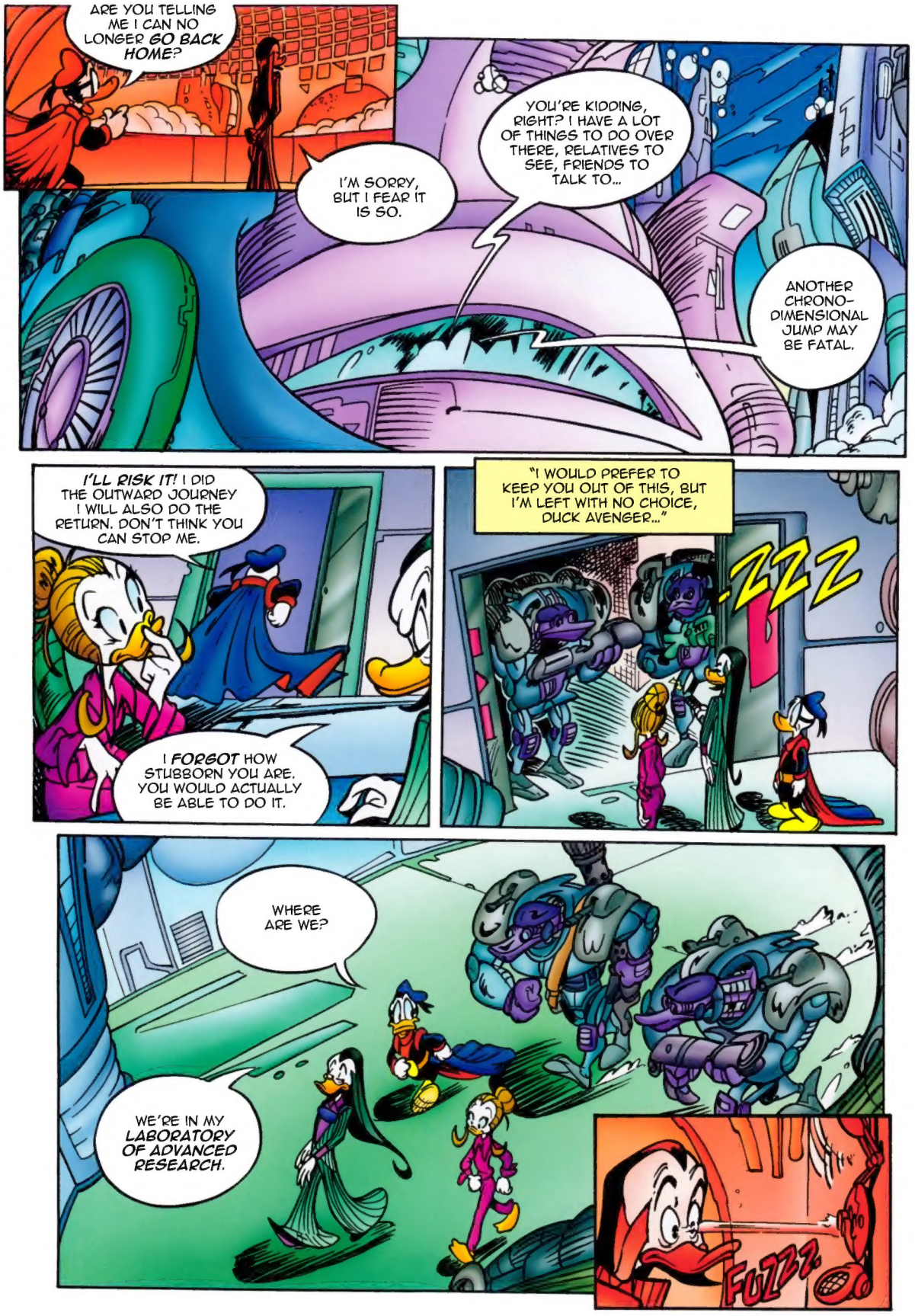
ARGH!
A NIGHTMARE, EH? YOU HAVE TO STOP EATING FAST.
YOU KNOW I ALWAYS HAVE LITTLE TIME, TRIP! WHY AREN'T YOU IN BED?
I'M HUNGRY, DAD!
CLUNCK
NO VANILLA ICE CREAM? BUT I'M HUNGRY FOR VANILLA ICE CREAM! AND I ALSO DON'T LIKE THIS NEW APARTMENT!
YOU'LL HAVE TO GET USED TO IT. OUR OLD RESIDENCE IS NO LONGER SAFE.
CHEER UP! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME "BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE, SON. SO MUCH SO YOU CAN ALWAYS CHANGE IT!"
I SAID IT WHEN I HAD FAITH IN THE TECHNOLOGY. BUT NOW THE TECHNOLOGY SLIPS FROM MY HANDS. LIKE THIS ABSURD TWENTY-THIRD CENTURY.

SO? HOW ARE THE TWO TRAVELERS?
TO BE HONEST, THE 5Y UNIT WAS VERY WEAK. WE'VE COMPLETELY REGENERATED HER.
CRONOSTATION
LYLA IS ALRIGHT, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DUCK AVENGER? WAS HE DAMAGED DURING THE CHRONODIMENSIONAL JUMP?
APPARENTLY NOT. THE POINT IS THAT HE DOESN'T WANT TO COOPERATE.
DON'T COME NEAR!
CALM DOWN. THESE ARE THE STANDARD ANALYSES THAT WE PERFORM ON ANYONE WHO MAKES A TRIP THROUGH TIME.
PFFT! THE LAST TIME I CAME TO THE TWENTY-THIRD CENTURY, NO ONE CHASED ME WITH THOSE THINGS!
I SUGGEST YOU LEAVE HIM ALONE, BOYS. YOU'RE NOT DEALING WITH AN ANDROID.
LYLA, HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
MY INTERNAL FUNCTIONS ARE OPTIMAL NOW. BUT DURING THE JUMP, I THOUGHT I WOULD NEVER MAKE IT.
AND YOU REALLY TOOK BIG RISKS.
ODIN EIDOLON! YOU CAME AT THE RIGHT TIME.
UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T SAY THE SAME FOR YOU TWO.

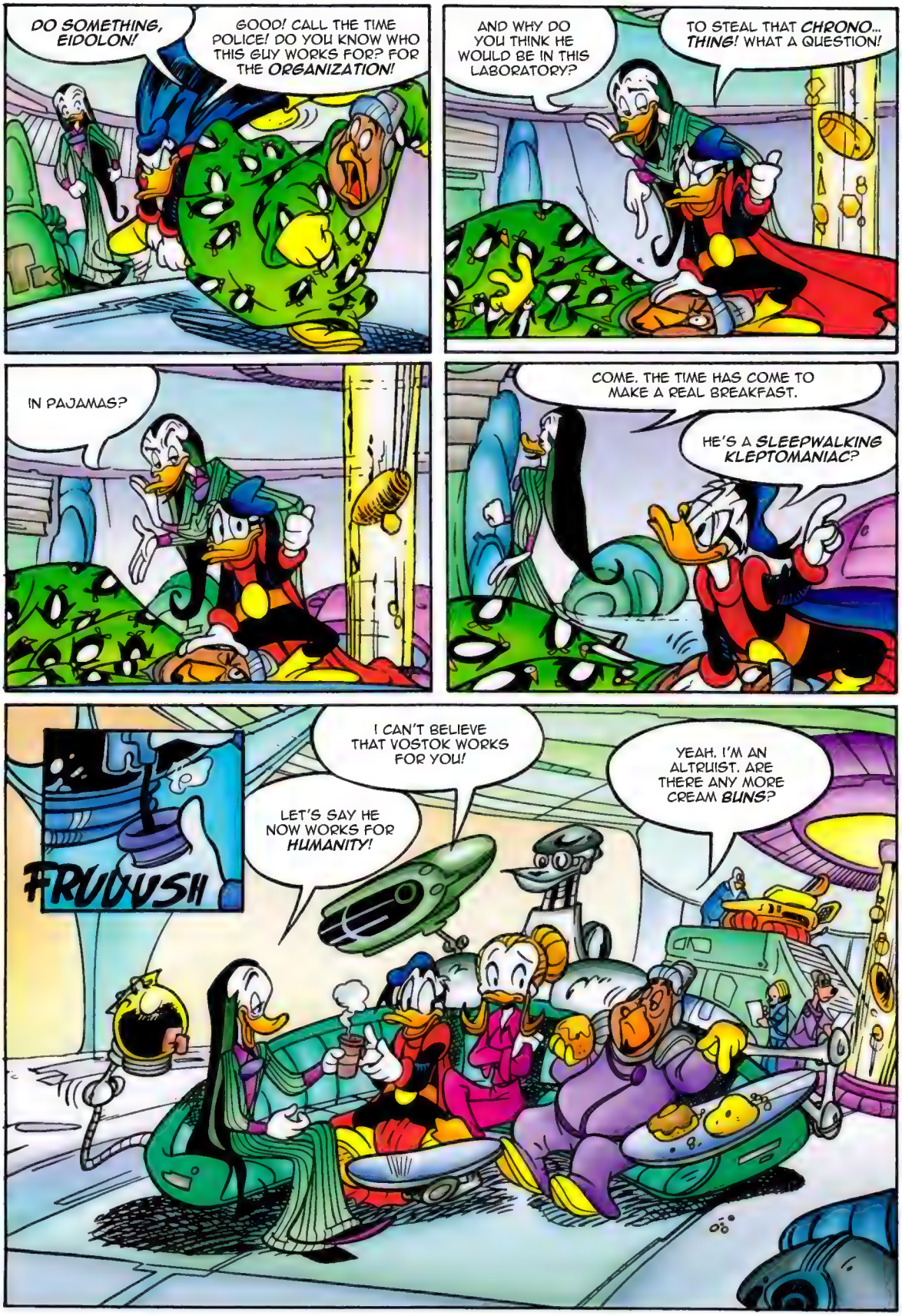

LATER...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "YOU CAN NO LONGER TRAVEL IN TIME"? AND WE, THEN?
YOU'RE THE EXCEPTION THAT CONFIRMS THE RULE. THE CAUSE OF EVERYTHING IS A NEW PHENOMENON, DEFINED AS SPACE-TIME MICROCONTRACTION.
EIDOLON INDUSTRIES
EIDOLON INDUSTRIES
EXPRESS YOURSELF IN A SIMPLE WAY, EIDOLON. I'M AN OLD-FASHIONED DUCK.
TO TRAVEL IN TIME, IT'S NECESSARY TO ACCELERATE THE ELECTRONS, TRANSFORMING THEM INTO TACHYONS.
THE MICROCONTRACTION IS SOME SORT OF UNPREDICTABLE ANOMALY THAT MODIFIES THE NORMAL TACHYONIC CONFORMATION.
WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS ABSURD!
YET IT IS SO. THERE'S CONFUSION IN THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD. AND WHEN SCIENCE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN...
ZAP
TIME HAS REFUSED. SOON, SPACE WILL ALSO COLLAPSE ON ITSELF. JUST AS IT HAPPENED AT THE CHRONO-STATIC PRISON OF TIME Ø.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THERE'S A SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION FOR THIS FACT AND...
SURE, SURE. PUBLICITY!
SCIENZA O SUPERSTIZIONE?
BUT... YOUR ARMIES OF SCIENTISTS CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?
AS I'VE ALREADY SAID, DEAR DUCK AVENGER, YOU CHOSE A BAD TIME TO CHANGE ERA.
IT'S ALL MY FAULT.

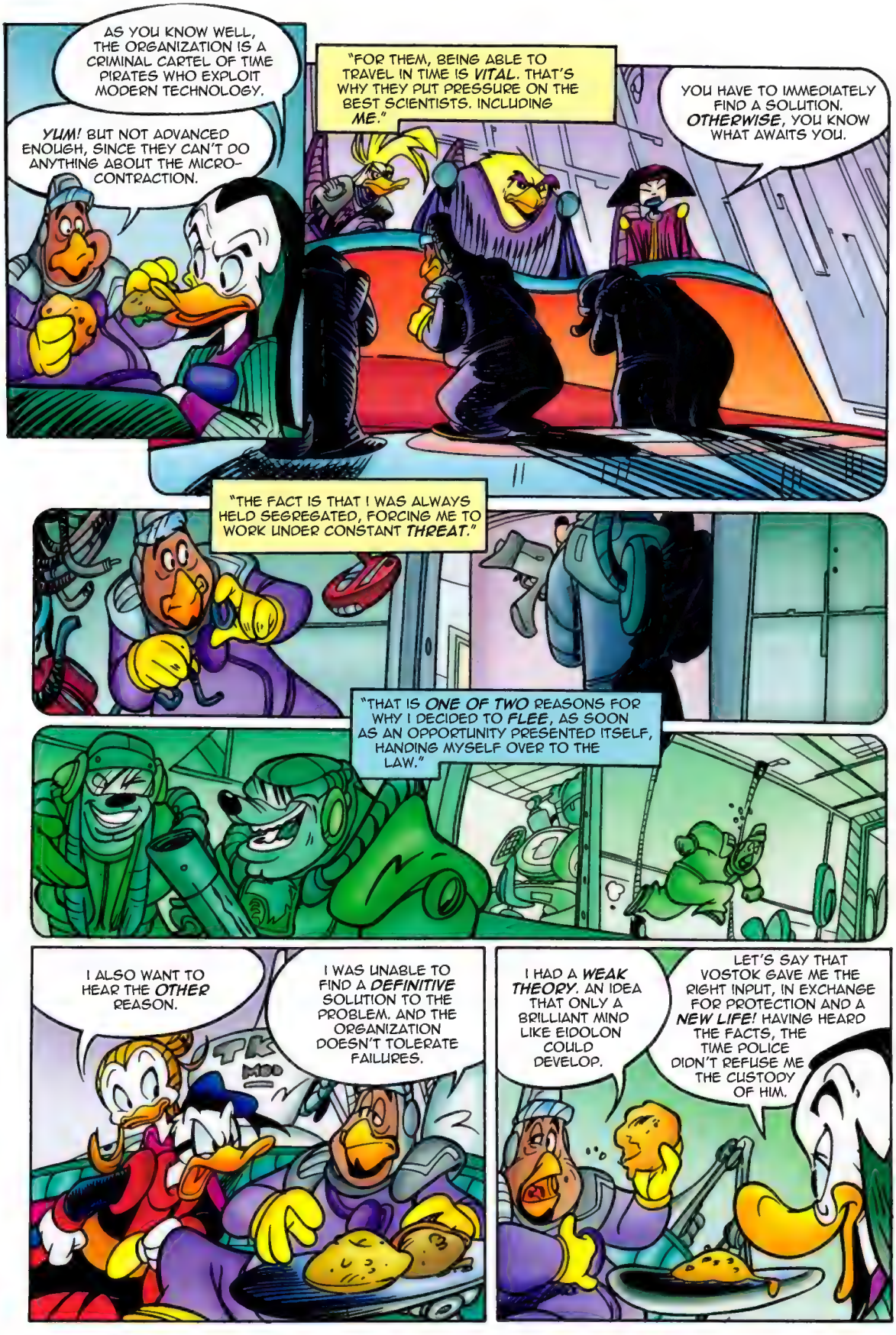

"I SHOULDN'T HAVE WAKED YOU UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, THREE CENTURIES AGO..."
THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE SO FAST, DONALD. I DIDN'T KNOW WHO TO TURN TO.
IMAGINE. THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR.
I LOST CONTACT WITH THE OPERATIONS CENTER IN THE FUTURE. IT'S WHAT PROVIDES THE DAILY ENERGO-CHRONAL CONTRIB-UTION.
SIMPLY PUT, YOU'RE A LITTLE... DISCHARGED!
WELL, ONE HAS AN EXCEPTIONAL BATTERY CHARGER AND...
URGH!
LYLA! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
NO. I NEED AT LEAST ENOUGH ENERGY TO RESTORE MY INTERNAL TEMPORAL TRANSPONDER.
DO YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO THE TWENTY-THIRD CENTURY?
I HAVE TO DO IT, IF I WANT TO SURVIVE.
OKAY, BUT ONLY IF YOU GRANT ME PERMISSION TO ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE DOOR.

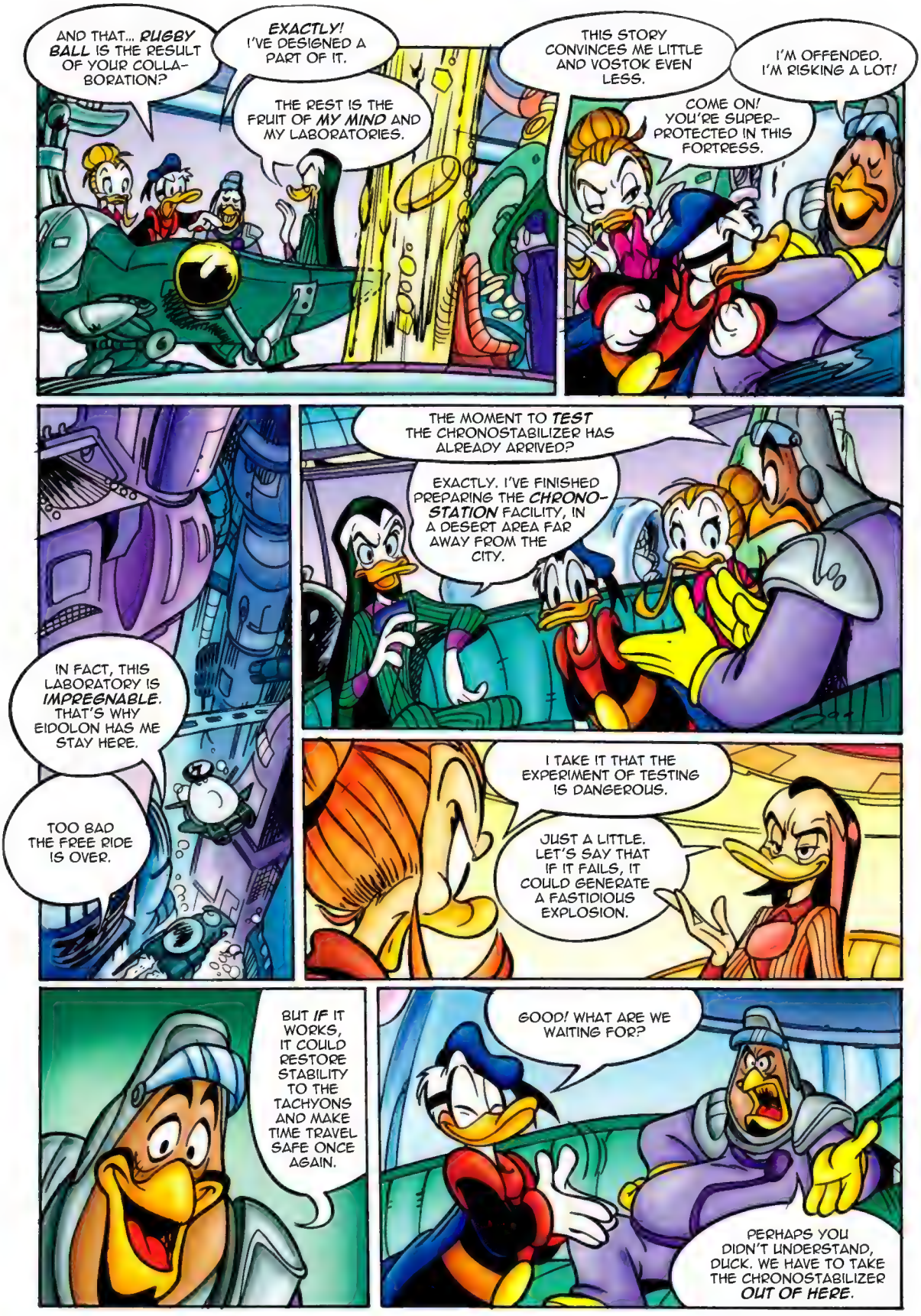

AND YOU ACCOMPANIED HER HERE?
I COULDN'T LET HER GO ALONE, IN THAT CONDITION.
HE'S A TRUE *GENTLEMAN*.
BESIDES, NOT EVEN I KNEW WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE WE ARRIVED. THE LAST RECORDED MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER SPOKE OF AN *ALTCON 5* CODE!
THE HIGHEST ALERT LEVEL.
THE SITUATION IS REALLY THAT GRAVE?
IT'S EVEN *WORSE*.
YOU AND LYLA ARE PROBABLY *THE LAST CHRONONAUTS OF THIS CENTURY!*
EEEH?
THE THENOMENON OF THE MICROCONTRACTION COMES AND GOES. PERHAPS YOU USED A RARE FAVORABLE MOMENT. YOU WERE LUCKY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
"OTHER TIME POLICEMEN HAVE TRIED TO REENTER. BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER FOR THEM TO REMAIN IN THEIR OWN TIME..."


ARE YOU TELLING ME I CAN NO LONGER GO BACK HOME?
I'M SORRY, BUT I FEAR IT IS SO.
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT? I HAVE A LOT OF THINGS TO DO OVER THERE, RELATIVES TO SEE, FRIENDS TO TALK TO...
ANOTHER CHRONO-DIMENSIONAL JUMP MAY BE FATAL.
I'LL RISK IT! I DID THE OUTWARD JOURNEY I WILL ALSO DO THE RETURN. DON'T THINK YOU CAN STOP ME.
I FORGOT HOW STUBBORN YOU ARE. YOU WOULD ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO DO IT.
"I WOULD PREFER TO KEEP YOU OUT OF THIS, BUT I'M LEFT WITH NO CHOICE, DUCK AVENGER..."
-ZZZ
WHERE ARE WE?
WE'RE IN MY LABORATORY OF ADVANCED RESEARCH.
FUZZZ

WOW! WHAT A SECURITY SYSTEM. WHAT DO YOU KEEP IN HERE? THE FORMULA OF A MIRACULOUS TOOTHPASTE?
THAT'S LOCATED NEXT TO THE CURE FOR BALDNESS, ON THE TOP SHELF TO THE LEFT.
BUT MY JEWEL IS SOMETHING ELSE. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I PRESENT THE QUANTIC CHRONO-STABILIZER.
BEAUTIFUL! DOES IT ALSO MAKE GOOD CAPPUCCINO?
YAWN! DID SOMEONE MENTION BREAKFAST?
?!
DUCK AVENGER!
VOSTOK!
GOOD. I SEE YOU'VE ALREADY MET. *
* FOR THE INTRODUCTIONS, CONSULT PKNA#14, "CARPE DIEM".
STOP, I HAVE TO SAY HI!
HEEELP!

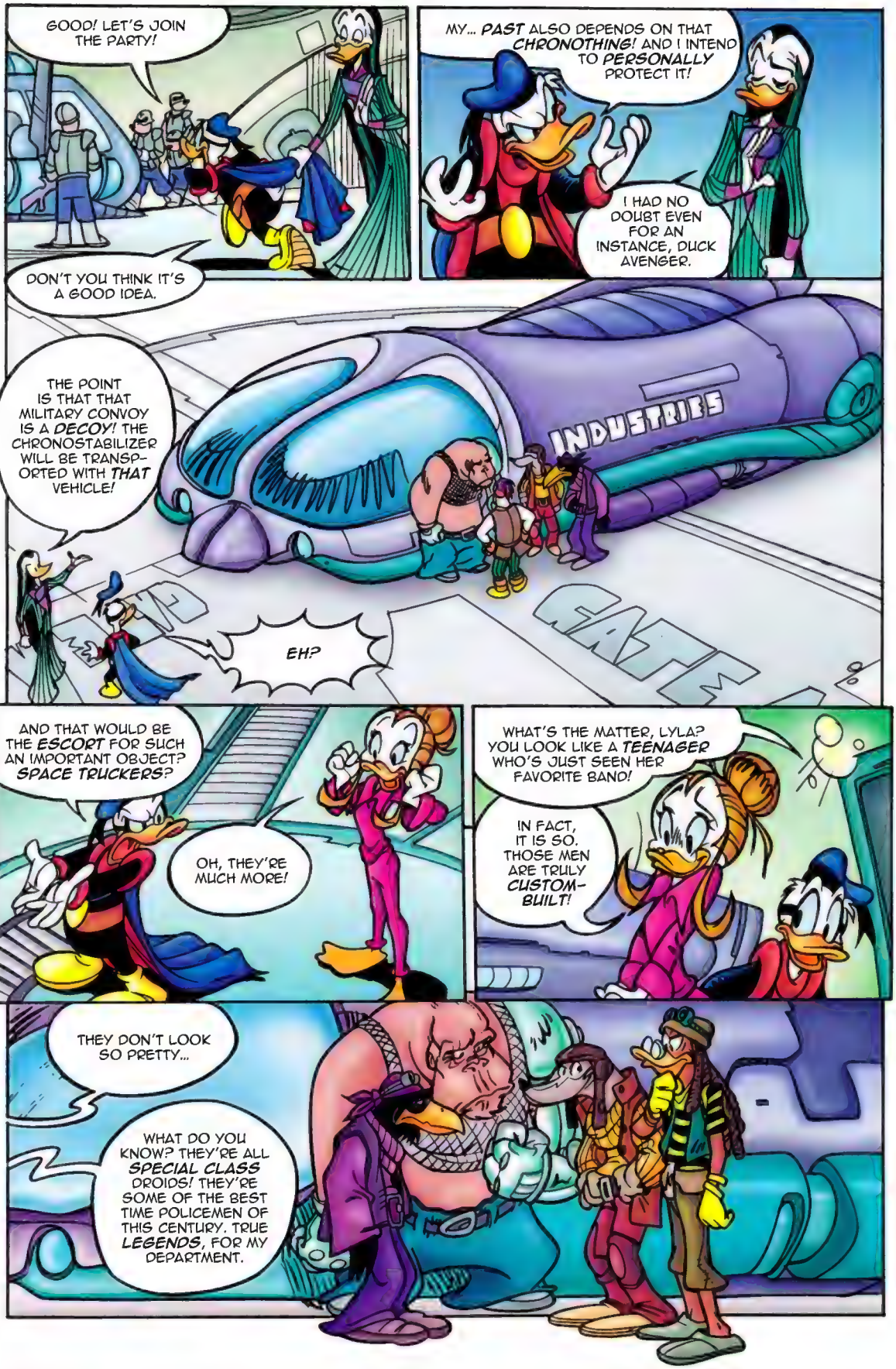

DO SOMETHING, EIDOLON!
GOOD! CALL THE TIME POLICE! DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS GUY WORKS FOR? FOR THE ORGANIZATION!
AND WHY DO YOU THINK HE WOULD BE IN THIS LABORATORY?
TO STEAL THAT CHRONO... THING! WHAT A QUESTION!
IN PAJAMAS?
COME. THE TIME HAS COME TO MAKE A REAL BREAKFAST.
HE'S A SLEEPWALKING KLEPTOMANIAC?
FRUUUSH
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT VOSTOK WORKS FOR YOU!
LET'S SAY HE NOW WORKS FOR HUMANITY!
YEAH. I'M AN ALTRUIST. ARE THERE ANY MORE CREAM BUNS?

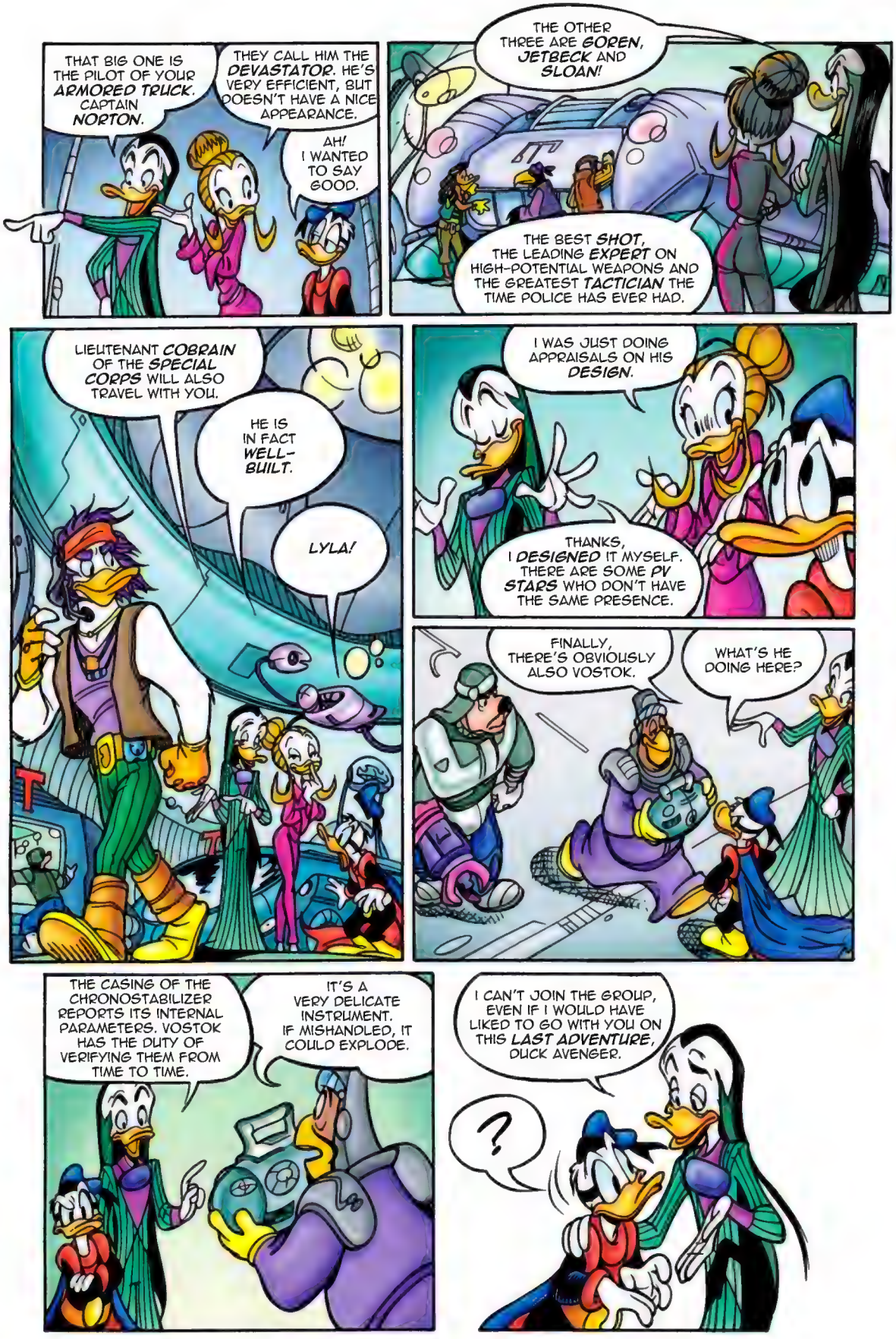

AS YOU KNOW WELL, THE ORGANIZATION IS A CRIMINAL CARTEL OF TIME PIRATES WHO EXPLOIT MODERN TECHNOLOGY.
YUM! BUT NOT ADVANCED ENOUGH, SINCE THEY CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE MICRO-CONTRACTION.
"FOR THEM, BEING ABLE TO TRAVEL IN TIME IS VITAL. THAT'S WHY THEY PUT PRESSURE ON THE BEST SCIENTISTS. INCLUDING ME."
YOU HAVE TO IMMEDIATELY FIND A SOLUTION. OTHERWISE, YOU KNOW WHAT AWAITS YOU.
"THE FACT IS THAT I WAS ALWAYS HELD SEGREGATED, FORCING ME TO WORK UNDER CONSTANT THREAT."
"THAT IS ONE OF TWO REASONS FOR WHY I DECIDED TO FLEE, AS SOON AS AN OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED ITSELF, HANDING MYSELF OVER TO THE LAW."
I ALSO WANT TO HEAR THE OTHER REASON.
I WAS UNABLE TO FIND A DEFINITIVE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. AND THE ORGANIZATION DOESN'T TOLERATE FAILURES.
I HAD A WEAK THEORY. AN IDEA THAT ONLY A BRILLIANT MIND LIKE EIDOLON COULD DEVELOP.
LET'S SAY THAT VOSTOK GAVE ME THE RIGHT INPUT, IN EXCHANGE FOR PROTECTION AND A NEW LIFE! HAVING HEARD THE FACTS, THE TIME POLICE DIDN'T REFUSE ME THE CUSTODY OF HIM.

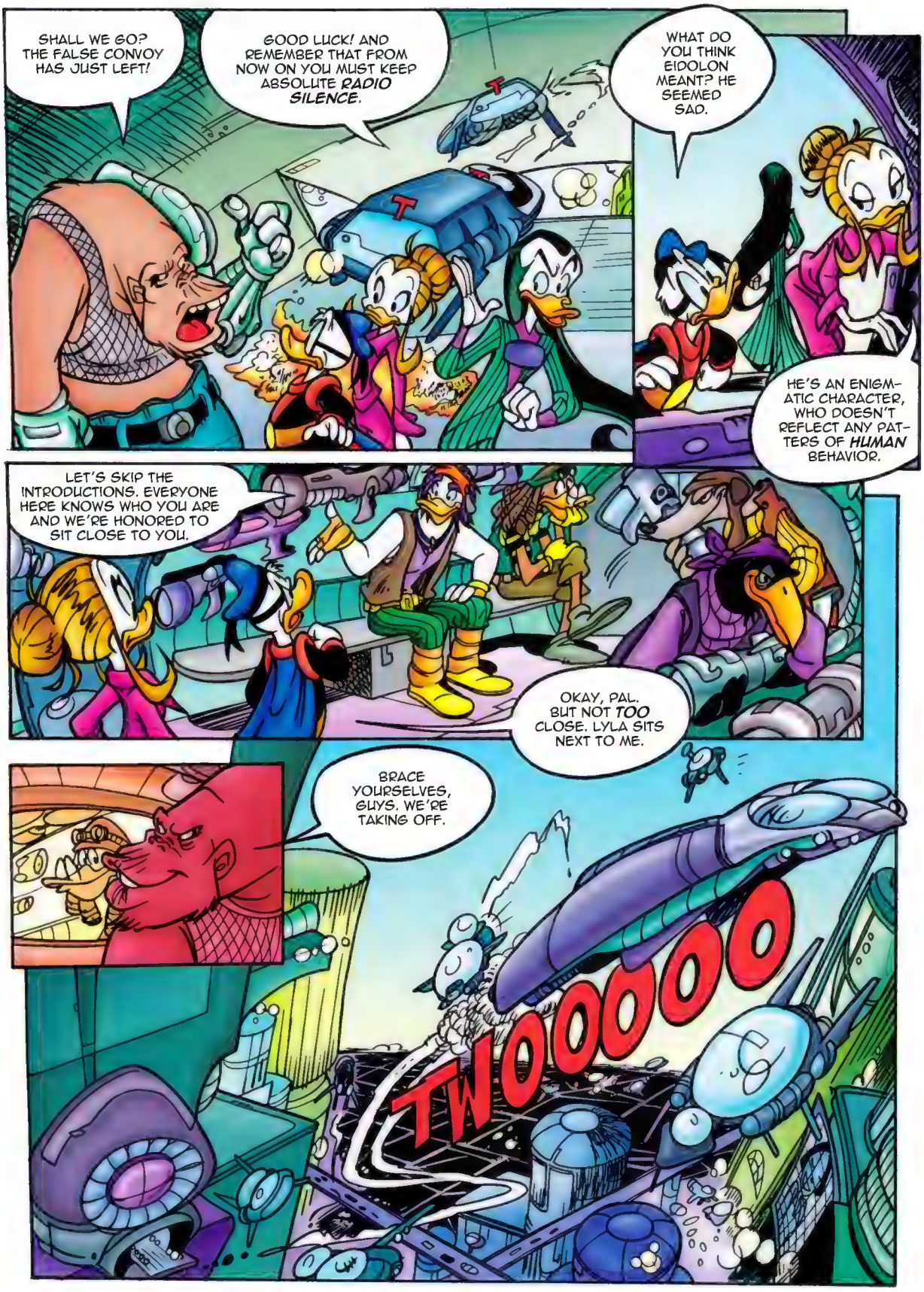

AND THAT... RUGBY BALL IS THE RESULT OF YOUR COLLABORATION?
EXACTLY! I'VE DESIGNED A PART OF IT.
THE REST IS THE FRUIT OF MY MIND AND MY LABORATORIES.
THIS STORY CONVINCES ME LITTLE AND VOSTOK EVEN LESS.
I'M OFFENDED. I'M RISKING A LOT!
COME ON! YOU'RE SUPER-PROTECTED IN THIS FORTRESS.
IN FACT, THIS LABORATORY IS IMPREGNABLE. THAT'S WHY EIDOLON HAS ME STAY HERE.
TOO BAD THE FREE RIDE IS OVER.
THE MOMENT TO TEST THE CHRONOSTABILIZER HAS ALREADY ARRIVED?
EXACTLY. I'VE FINISHED PREPARING THE CHRONO-STATION FACILITY, IN A DESERT AREA FAR AWAY FROM THE CITY.
I TAKE IT THAT THE EXPERIMENT OF TESTING IS DANGEROUS.
JUST A LITTLE. LET'S SAY THAT IF IT FAILS, IT COULD GENERATE A FASTIDIOUS EXPLOSION.
BUT IF IT WORKS, IT COULD RESTORE STABILITY TO THE TACHYONS AND MAKE TIME TRAVEL SAFE ONCE AGAIN.
GOOD! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
PERHAPS YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND, DUCK. WE HAVE TO TAKE THE CHRONOSTABILIZER OUT OF HERE.

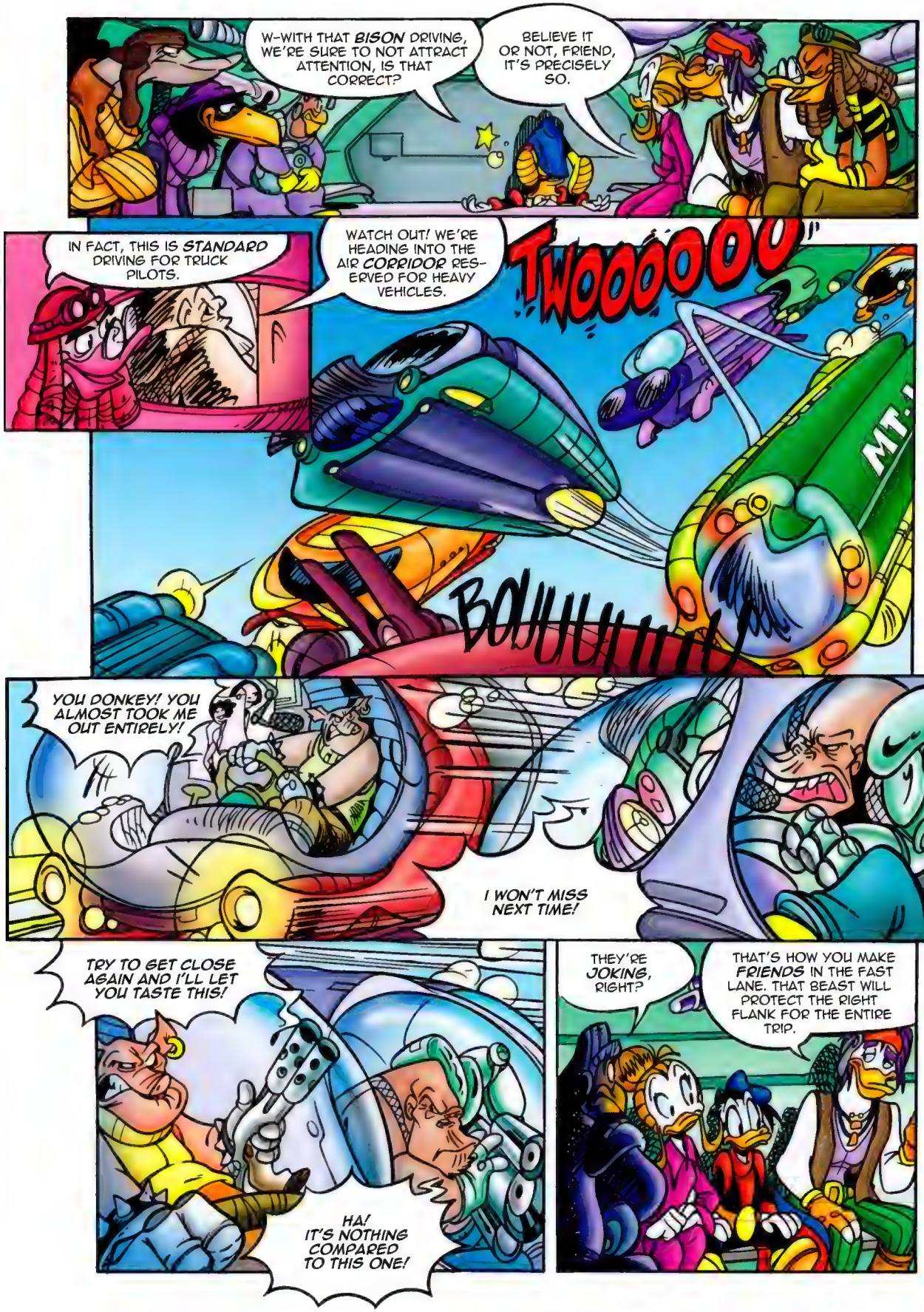
"THE ORGANIZATION HAS EYES AND EARS EVERYWHERE. PERHAPS THEY ALREADY KNOW EVERYTHING AND ARE WAITING AT THE PASSAGE."
ARE THEY MOVING, MR. NEWTON?
YES, MA'AM.
GOOD. THEY'LL GET A NICE SURPRISE WHEN THEY COME OUT OF THAT BUNKER.
THERE'S A PROBLEM. THE DUCK AVENGER IS A GUEST OF EIDOLON.
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE! HOW DID HE GET HERE?
A STROKE OF LUCK, ACCORDING TO OUR SPIES AMONG THE TECHNICIANS OF THE CITY CHRONOSTATION.
IT WAS EVIDENTLY FATE THAT YOU MET EACH OTHER FOR THE LAST TIME. AM I RIGHT, RAIDER?
YEAH. ALTHOUGH THIS ADDS A BIG FACTOR OF RISK TO MY MISSION.
YOU JUST HAVE TO RECOVER THE QUANTIC CHRONOSTABILIZER. OUR MEN WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.
UNDERSTOOD. WILL THEY TAKE CARE OF VOSTOK TOO?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIS PRECARIOUS HEALTH, RAIDER.
YOU'LL HAVE TO THINK OF YOURS, IF YOU DON'T BRING US WHAT WE ARE PAYING YOU HANDSOMELY FOR.

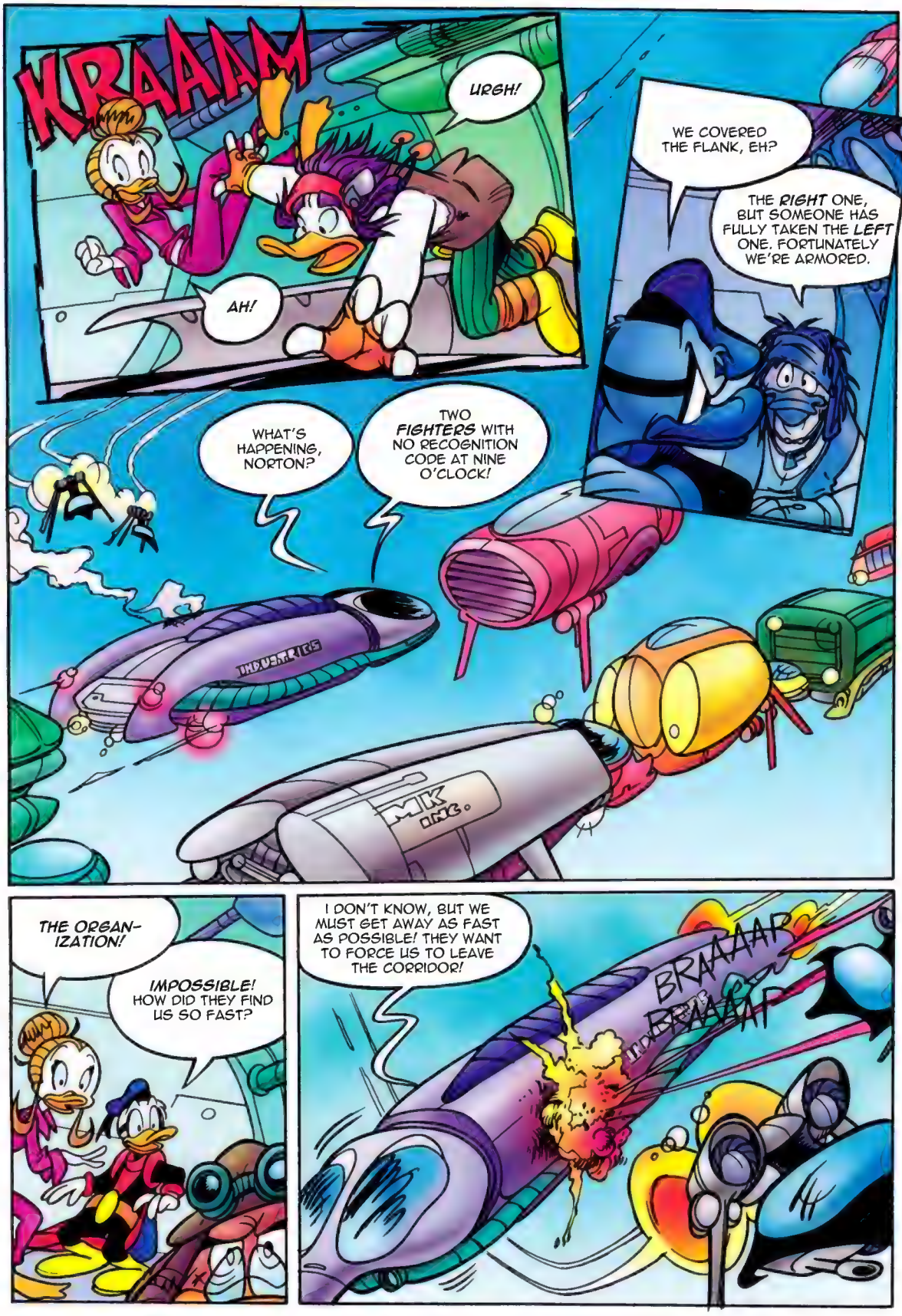
FOR THE DELIVERY, YOU CAN NO LONGER REFER TO THIS OPERATIONAL BASE. YOU'LL HEAR FROM US.
UNDERSTOOD. I ALSO CONSTANTLY CHANGE HIDEOUTS. I CAN NO LONGER ESCAPE FROM THE TIME POLICE AMONG THE FOLD OF TIME.
WE'RE SLAVES OF THIS CENTURY. YOU CAN GO, RAIDER.
CAN WE STILL COUNT ON HIM? HE CAN NO LONGER USE HIS CHRONOPOWERS.
IT'S NOT A CHRONOSAIL THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE. IT'S ALWAYS THE BEST PROFESSIONAL ON THE MARKET.
FURTHERMORE, IT'S BEST TO DEPLOY ALL OUR FORCES.
THE FUTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION DEPENDS ON THIS OPERATION.
COME ON! EVERYONE ONBOARD!
YOU'VE MOBILIZED A REAL ARMY OF TIME POLICEMEN.
OF COURSE! THE CHRONOSTABILIZER IS TEMPTING TO MANY! IMAGINE IF IT GETS IN THE WRONG HANDS.
TO POSSESS IT ALSO MEANS TO HAVE MONOPOLY ON TIME TRAVEL.
EIDOLON INDUSTRIES
T
T
SHIELD

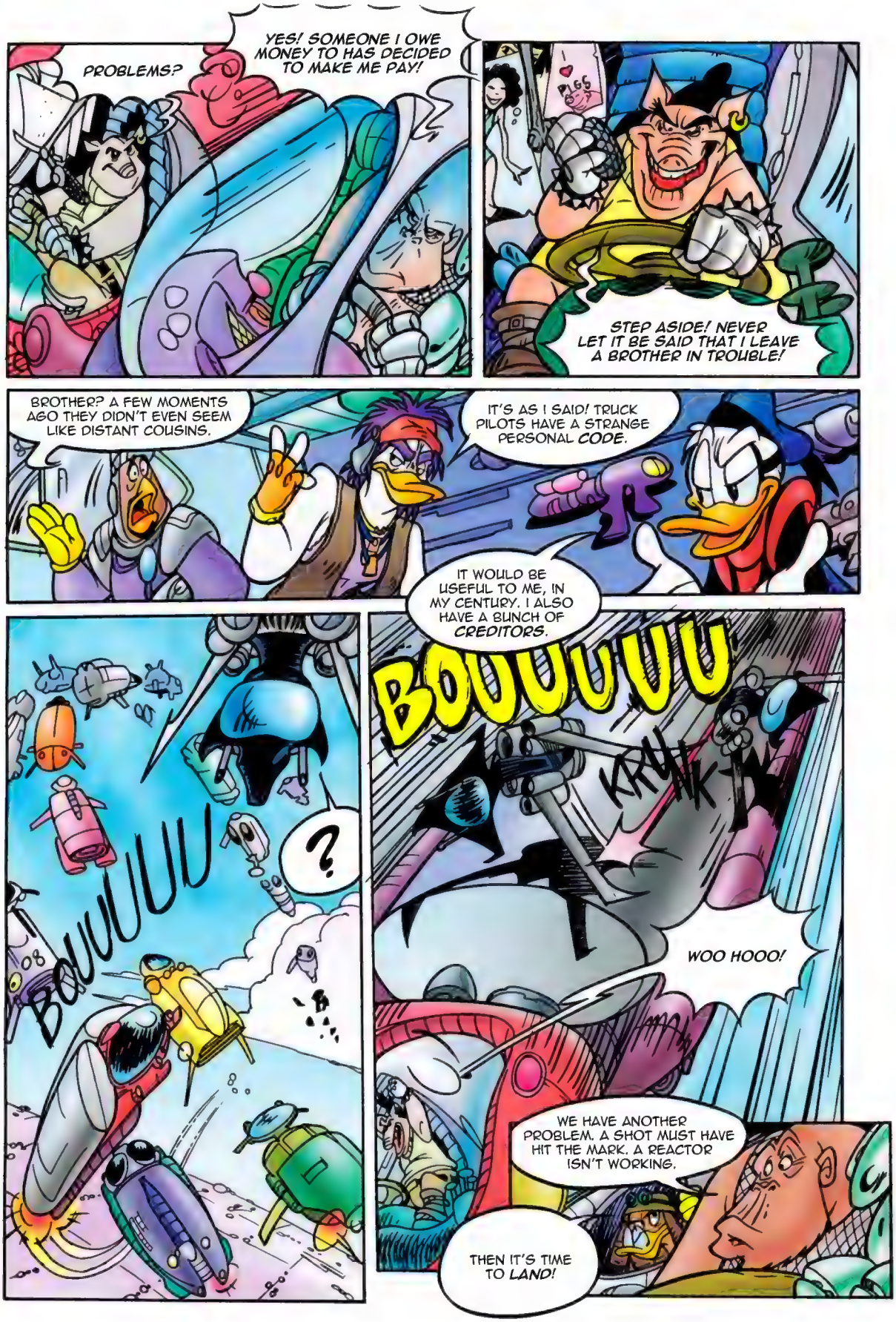

GOOD! LET'S JOIN THE PARTY!
MY... PAST ALSO DEPENDS ON THAT CHRONOTHING! AND I INTEND TO PERSONALLY PROTECT IT!
I HAD NO DOUBT EVEN FOR AN INSTANCE, DUCK AVENGER.
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA.
THE POINT IS THAT THAT MILITARY CONVOY IS A DECOY! THE CHRONOSTABILIZER WILL BE TRANSPORTED WITH THAT VEHICLE!
INDUSTRIES
EH?
AND THAT WOULD BE THE ESCORT FOR SUCH AN IMPORTANT OBJECT? SPACE TRUCKERS?
OH, THEY'RE MUCH MORE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LYLA? YOU LOOK LIKE A TEENAGER WHO'S JUST SEEN HER FAVORITE BAND!
IN FACT, IT IS SO. THOSE MEN ARE TRULY CUSTOM-BUILT!
THEY DON'T LOOK SO PRETTY...
WHAT DO YOU KNOW? THEY'RE ALL SPECIAL CLASS DROIDS! THEY'RE SOME OF THE BEST TIME POLICEMEN OF THIS CENTURY. TRUE LEGENDS, FOR MY DEPARTMENT.

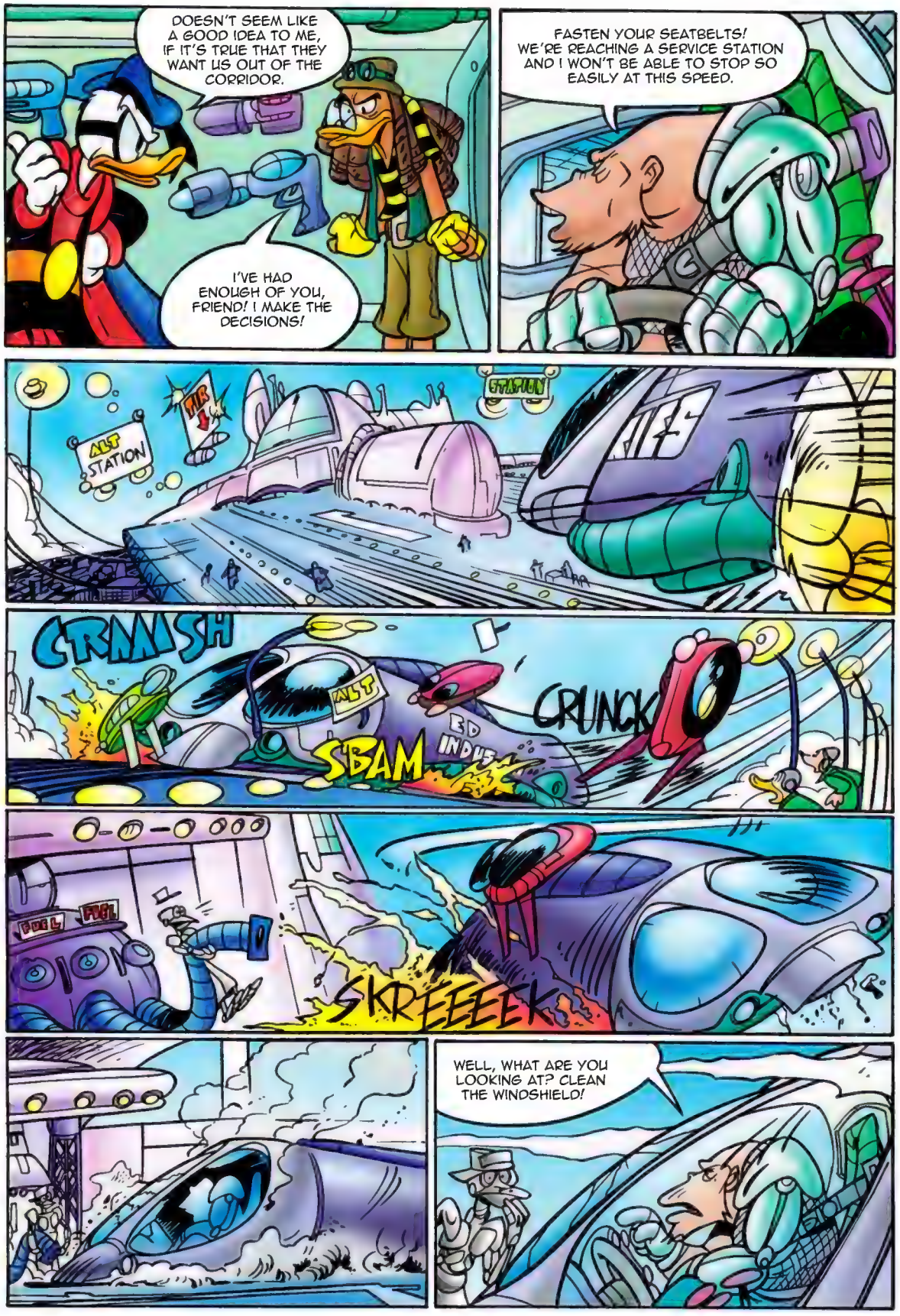

THAT BIG ONE IS THE PILOT OF YOUR ARMORED TRUCK. CAPTAIN NORTON.
THEY CALL HIM THE DEVASTATOR. HE'S VERY EFFICIENT, BUT DOESN'T HAVE A NICE APPEARANCE.
AH! I WANTED TO SAY GOOD.
THE OTHER THREE ARE GOREN, JETBECK AND SLOAN!
THE BEST SHOT, THE LEADING EXPERT ON HIGH-POTENTIAL WEAPONS AND THE GREATEST TACTICIAN THE TIME POLICE HAS EVER HAD.
LIEUTENANT COBRAIN OF THE SPECIAL CORPS WILL ALSO TRAVEL WITH YOU.
HE IS IN FACT WELL-BUILT.
LYLA!
I WAS JUST DOING APPRAISALS ON HIS DESIGN.
THANKS, I DESIGNED IT MYSELF. THERE ARE SOME PV STARS WHO DON'T HAVE THE SAME PRESENCE.
FINALLY, THERE'S OBVIOUSLY ALSO VOSTOK.
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
THE CASING OF THE CHRONOSTABILIZER REPORTS ITS INTERNAL PARAMETERS. VOSTOK HAS THE DUTY OF VERIFYING THEM FROM TIME TO TIME.
IT'S A VERY DELICATE INSTRUMENT. IF MISHANDLED, IT COULD EXPLODE.
I CAN'T JOIN THE GROUP, EVEN IF I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO GO WITH YOU ON THIS LAST ADVENTURE, DUCK AVENGER.
?


SHALL WE GO? THE FALSE CONVOY HAS JUST LEFT!
GOOD LUCK! AND REMEMBER THAT FROM NOW ON YOU MUST KEEP ABSOLUTE *RADIO SILENCE*.
WHAT DO YOU THINK EIDOLON MEANT? HE SEEMED SAD.
HE'S AN ENIGMATIC CHARACTER, WHO DOESN'T REFLECT ANY PATTERS OF *HUMAN* BEHAVIOR.
LET'S SKIP THE INTRODUCTIONS. EVERYONE HERE KNOWS WHO YOU ARE AND WE'RE HONORED TO SIT CLOSE TO YOU.
OKAY, PAL. BUT NOT *TOO* CLOSE. LYLA SITS NEXT TO ME.
BRACE YOURSELVES, GUYS. WE'RE TAKING OFF.
TWOOOOOO


W-WITH THAT BISON DRIVING, WE'RE SURE TO NOT ATTRACT ATTENTION, IS THAT CORRECT?
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, FRIEND, IT'S PRECISELY SO.
IN FACT, THIS IS STANDARD DRIVING FOR TRUCK PILOTS.
WATCH OUT! WE'RE HEADING INTO THE AIR CORRIDOR RESERVED FOR HEAVY VEHICLES.
TWOOOOOU
MT.
BOUUUUUUUU
YOU DONKEY! YOU ALMOST TOOK ME OUT ENTIRELY!
I WON'T MISS NEXT TIME!
TRY TO GET CLOSE AGAIN AND I'LL LET YOU TASTE THIS!
HA! IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO THIS ONE!
THEY'RE JOKING, RIGHT?
THAT'S HOW YOU MAKE FRIENDS IN THE FAST LANE. THAT BEAST WILL PROTECT THE RIGHT FLANK FOR THE ENTIRE TRIP.


KRAAAM
URGH!
AH!
WE COVERED THE FLANK, EH?
THE RIGHT ONE, BUT SOMEONE HAS FULLY TAKEN THE LEFT ONE. FORTUNATELY WE'RE ARMORED.
WHAT'S HAPPENING, NORTON?
TWO FIGHTERS WITH NO RECOGNITION CODE AT NINE O'CLOCK!
INDUSTRIES
MK ONE
THE ORGAN-IZATION!
IMPOSSIBLE! HOW DID THEY FIND US SO FAST?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE MUST GET AWAY AS FAST AS POSSIBLE! THEY WANT TO FORCE US TO LEAVE THE CORRIDOR!
BRAAAAP
BRAAAAP


PROBLEMS?
YES! SOMEONE I OWE MONEY TO HAS DECIDED TO MAKE ME PAY!
I ♥ PIGS
STEP ASIDE! NEVER LET IT BE SAID THAT I LEAVE A BROTHER IN TROUBLE!
BROTHER? A FEW MOMENTS AGO THEY DIDN'T EVEN SEEM LIKE DISTANT COUSINS.
IT'S AS I SAID! TRUCK PILOTS HAVE A STRANGE PERSONAL CODE.
IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ME, IN MY CENTURY. I ALSO HAVE A BUNCH OF CREDITORS.
BOUUUUU
?
BOUUUUUU
KRUNK
WOO HOOO!
WE HAVE ANOTHER PROBLEM. A SHOT MUST HAVE HIT THE MARK. A REACTOR ISN'T WORKING.
THEN IT'S TIME TO LAND!

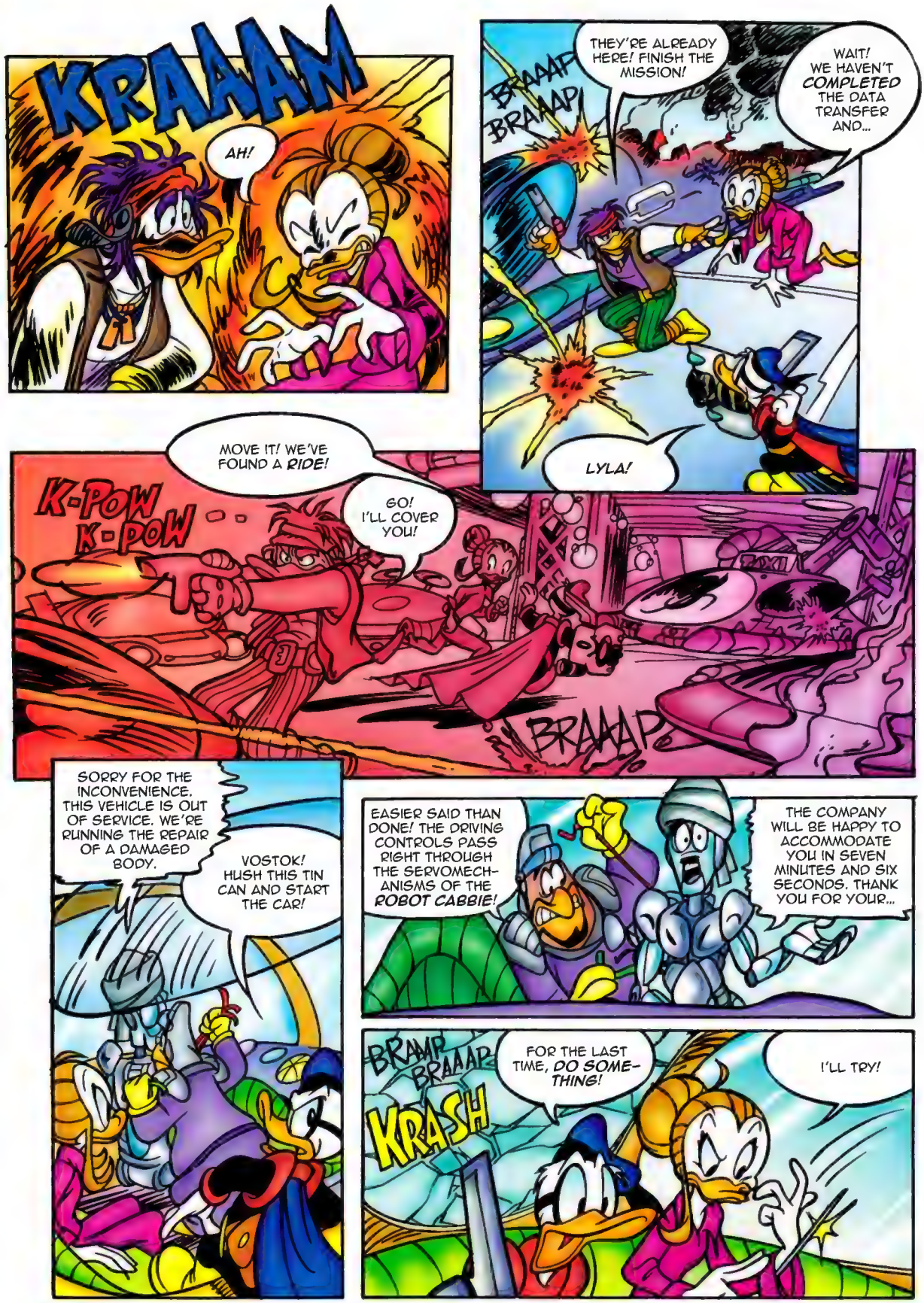

DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A GOOD IDEA TO ME, IF IT'S TRUE THAT THEY WANT US OUT OF THE CORRIDOR.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU, FRIEND! I MAKE THE DECISIONS!
FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS! WE'RE REACHING A SERVICE STATION AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP SO EASILY AT THIS SPEED.
ALT STATION
ALT
STATION
CRAAISH
ALT
SBAM
CRUNCK
FUEL
FUEL
SKREEEEK
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT? CLEAN THE WINDSHIELD!

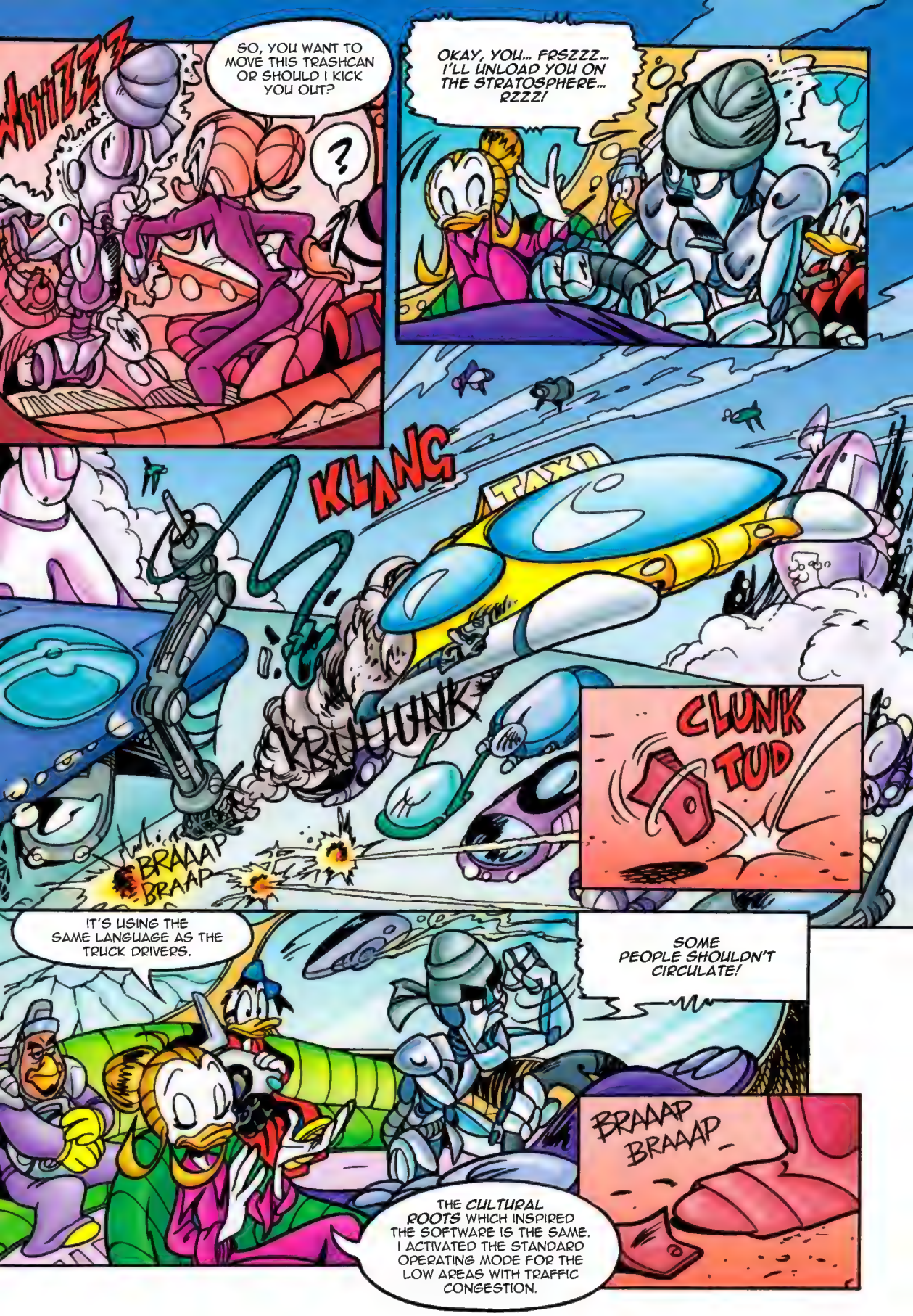
WE'RE MOVING OUT! JETBECK, COVER OUR BACKS! GOREN, LEAD THE WAY!
STAND BACK.
FSSSSH
DO YOU SEE THOSE MOVEMENTS? AND THAT STYLE? STUFF BY THE BOOK!
TRUE PROFESSIONALS. I'M VERY IMPRESSED.
ALL CLEAR!
HEARD THAT? WE CAN GO AND...
WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU GO AHEAD! LYLA AND VOSTOK REMAIN HERE! AT LEAST UNTIL GOREN'S FACE REAPPEARS!
YOU'LL DO AS I SAY, OTHERWISE...
FORGET IT.
MY GOOD ENEMY DOESN'T THINK LIKE YOU. HE'S INSTINCTIVE.
THE RAIDER! I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED IT!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, JETBECK? SHOOT!
I-I CAN'T! GOREN'S THERE AND...
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU DON'T HAVE TO DISINTEGRATE HIM, JUST STUN HIM! STAND ASIDE!
BUT... THIS PULSE CANNON IS DISCHARGED!
BRIP
WHAT? BUT I'M SURE I CHECKED IT!
GRRR! A TACTICIAN WHO MAKES WRONG TACTICS! A GUNMAN WHO GETS DISARMED AND A WEAPONS EXPERT WITHOUT EXPERIENCE!
YOU KNOW WHAT? FROM NOW ON YOU DO AS I SAY!
FLOTCH
WOOOSH

WAAACK
URGH!
YOU... YOU... SHOULD BE REVISED! YOU NEARLY HIT ME IN THE FACE!
IN FACT, I DON'T HAVE A GREAT AIM. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SHARPSHOOTER'S YOU.
MOVE IT, VOSTOK! YOU'LL BE BETWEEN ME AND LYLA WHILE...
KRAAAM
BRAAAP BRAAAP BRAAAP
KRAAM
THE ORGANIZATION! THERE'S A REAL ARMY!
ALL THE MORE REASON TO CUT AND RUN!
BROOOM
AAAHR!
FINALLY THE BIG ONE OF THE TROOP ARRIVED!
FTOOOM FTOOOM

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S HELP HIM!
WITH REAL PLEASURE!
BRMMP
BRAAAP
WAAAM
F-TOOOM
BRAAAP
BETTER LATE THAN NEVER! YOUR FRIENDS HAVE WOKEN UP, LYLA! WHERE DO WE GO NOW?
THERE, TOWARDS THE PARKING LOT!
CAR PARKING
IT SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE LIKE THIS! GET DOWN!
BRAAAP
BAR
BRAAAP
BRAAAP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, COBRAIN?
THE DATA ON THE JOURNEY! I HAVE TO DOWNLOAD IT INTO YOUR MEMORY, LYLA! LOOK AT ME!
WINNNNN


KRAAAM
AH!
BRAAAP BRAAAP
THEY'RE ALREADY HERE! FINISH THE MISSION!
WAIT! WE HAVEN'T COMPLETED THE DATA TRANSFER AND...
LYLA!
MOVE IT! WE'VE FOUND A RIDE!
GO! I'LL COVER YOU!
K-POW K-POW
BRAAAP
SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE. THIS VEHICLE IS OUT OF SERVICE. WE'RE RUNNING THE REPAIR OF A DAMAGED BODY.
VOSTOK! HUSH THIS TIN CAN AND START THE CAR!
EASIER SAID THAN DONE! THE DRIVING CONTROLS PASS RIGHT THROUGH THE SERVOMECHANISMS OF THE ROBOT CABBIE!
THE COMPANY WILL BE HAPPY TO ACCOMMODATE YOU IN SEVEN MINUTES AND SIX SECONDS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR...
BRAAP BRAAAP
KRASH
FOR THE LAST TIME, DO SOMETHING!
I'LL TRY!

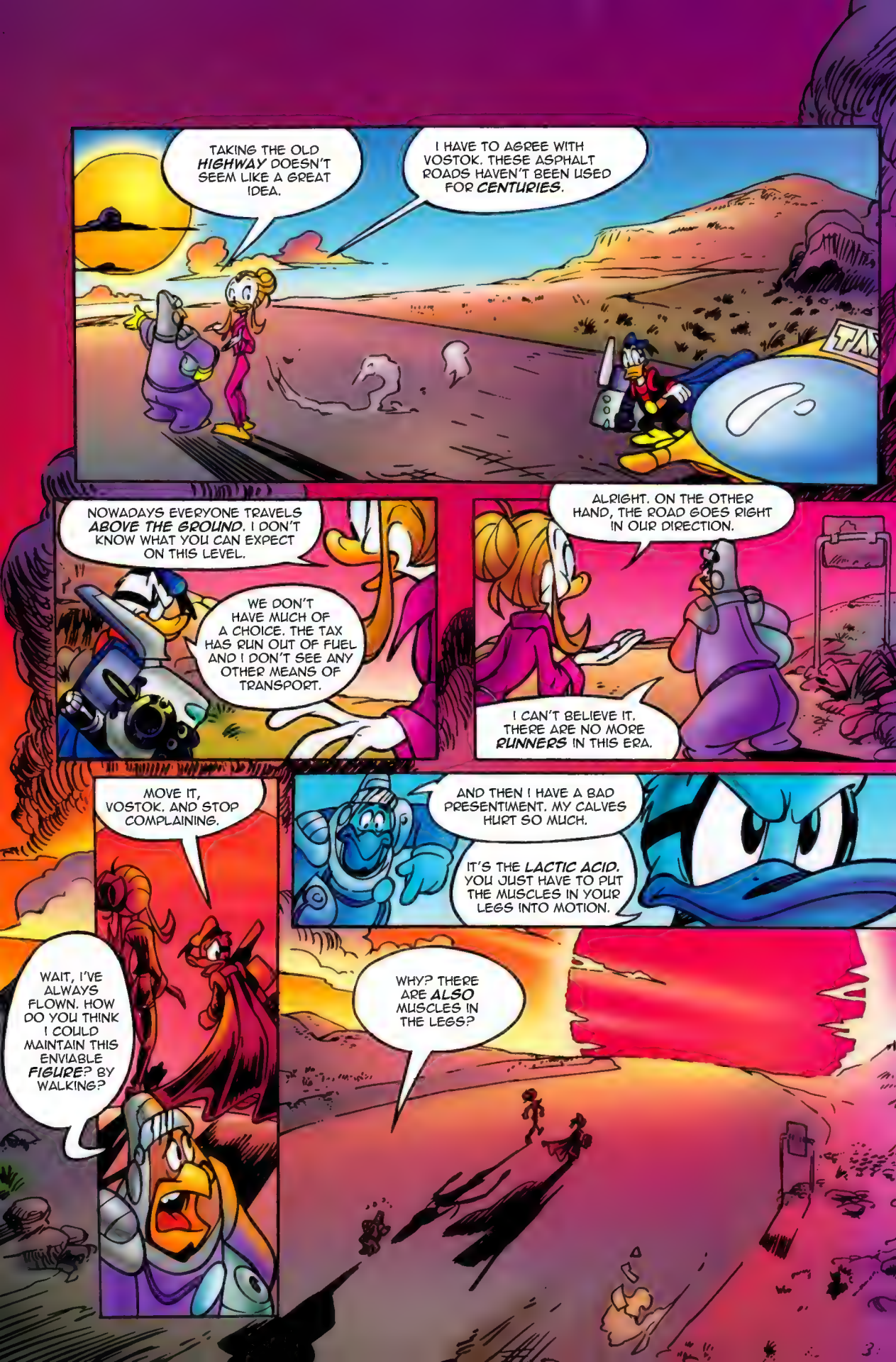

SHHZZZ
SO, YOU WANT TO MOVE THIS TRASHCAN OR SHOULD I KICK YOU OUT?
?
OKAY, YOU... FRSZZZ... I'LL UNLOAD YOU ON THE STRATOSPHERE... RZZZ!
KLANG
TAXI
KRUUUNK
BRAAAP BRAAP
CLUNK TUD
IT'S USING THE SAME LANGUAGE AS THE TRUCK DRIVERS.
SOME PEOPLE SHOULDN'T CIRCULATE!
BRAAAP BRAAAP
THE CULTURAL ROOTS WHICH INSPIRED THE SOFTWARE IS THE SAME. I ACTIVATED THE STANDARD OPERATING MODE FOR THE LOW AREAS WITH TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

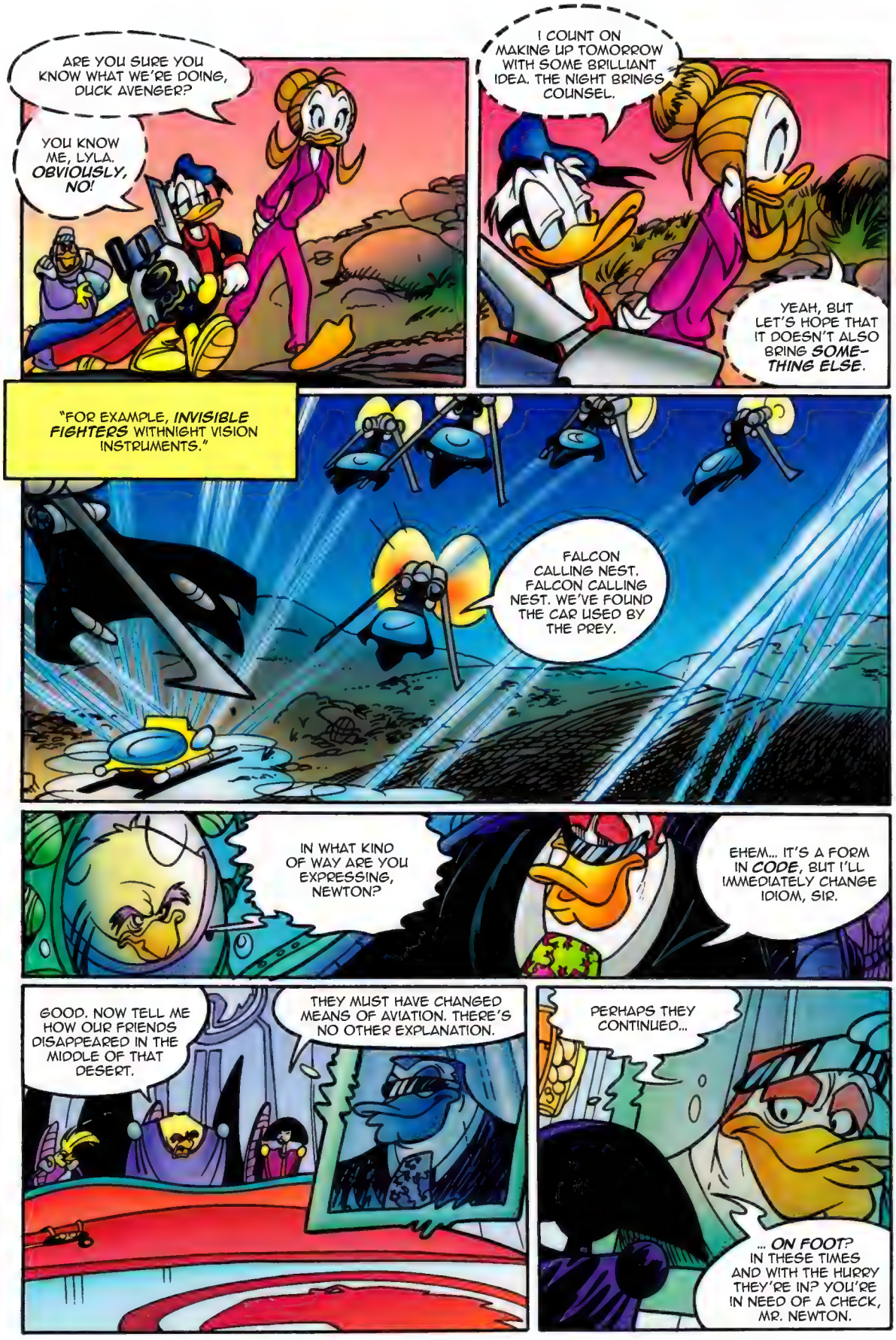
AND WHERE ARE WE HEADED NOW?
TO THE NORTH EAST. I IMPOSED THE COORDINATED ON THE ONBOARD COMPUTER.
I'VE RECOVERED MOST OF THE DATA COBRAIN SENT ME, BUT I'M TRYING TO RECONSTRUCT THE DAMAGED FILES.
IF NOTHING ELSE, WE KNOW WHERE TO GO.
YET I FEEL THAT I PRECISELY MISS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART.
THE MISSION STARTED BADLY. SHOULDN'T WE ABORT IT?
NO! SOMEONE FOUND THE ROUTE OF THE CONVOY, BUT NOW WE'LL TAKE AN ALTERNATIVE PATH.
THEN MAYBE WE SHOULD INFORM EIDOLON!
HE HIMSELF TOLD US TO KEEP RADIO SILENCE. WE'LL ARRIVE AT THE DESTINATION ON OUR OWN.
ALRIGHT, BUT LET'S CHANGE CARS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE ORGANIZATION WILL SURELY TRACK US DOWN.
WHY? YOU THINK THAT, IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THAT CHAOS, SOMEONE HAD THE TIME TO WRITE DOWN THE TAXI'S LICENSE PLATE?

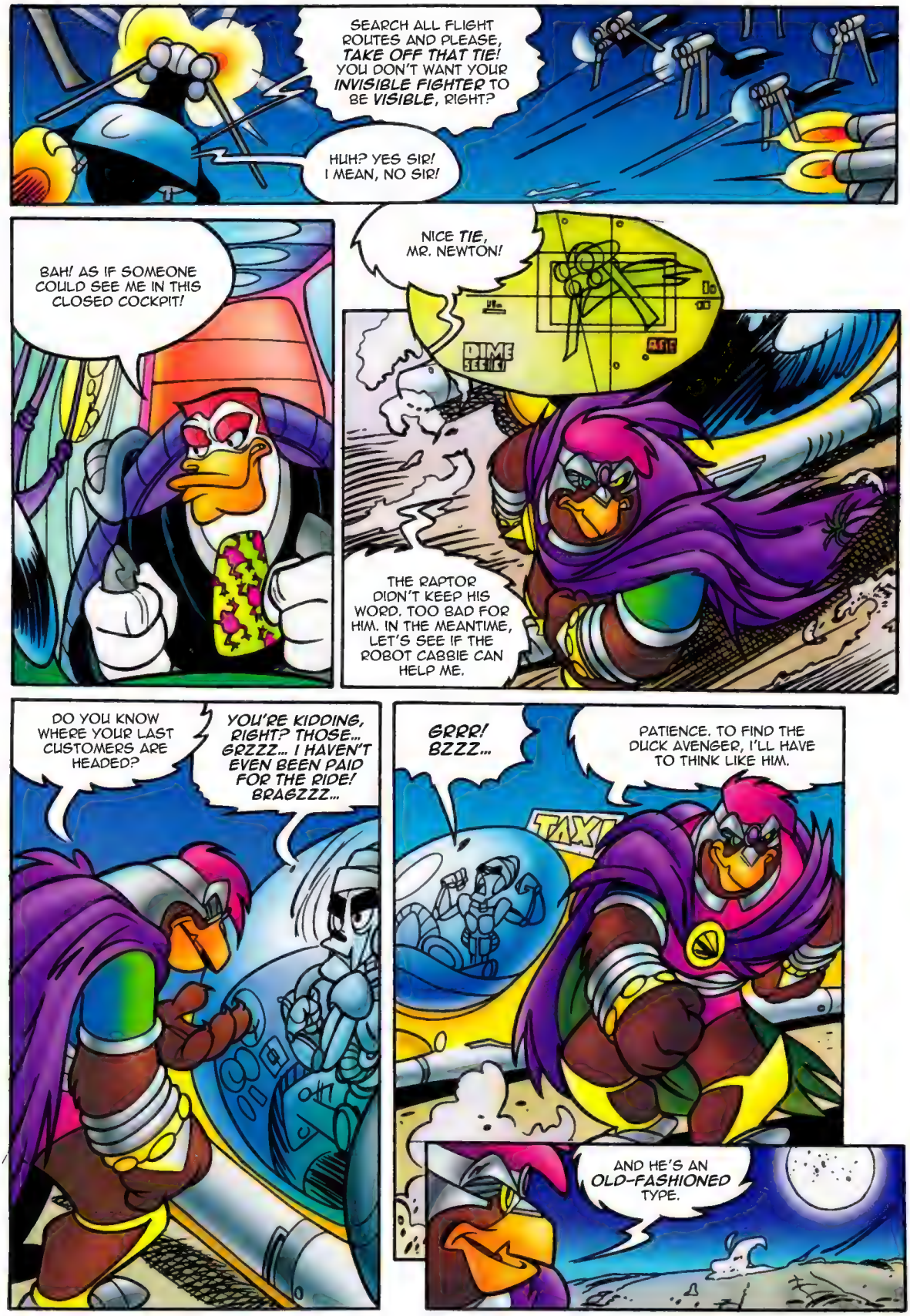
LICENSE PLATE 264TCV220, TAXI TANGO 6, MODEL FLY AND FLY, ROBOT CABBIE TWINNY 38, ASSEMBLED IN 2224, REVISED IN...
BIP
IT'S INCREDIBLE HOW MANY THINGS YOU CAN TRACE BACK TO FROM A SIMPLE PIECE OF SHEET METAL.
MAY WE KNOW THEM TOO, RAIDER?
WHAT DO YOU WANT? WASN'T I SUPPOSED TO HEAR FROM YOU WHEN THE MISSION WAS COMPLETED?
IF YOU KNOW WHERE THE RUNAWAYS ARE HEADED, YOU HAVE TO TELL US!
I WORK ALONE. YOU'VE ALREADY DONE ENOUGH DAMAGE WITH YOUR RECKLESS INTERVENTION.
DO I HAVE TO REMIND YOU OF OUR DEPENDENCIES?
LISTEN WELL, YOU BAG OF FEATHERS!
IF I FIND ONE OF YOUR MEN ON MY WAY, I'LL PERSONALLY BEND YOUR BEAK! IS THAT CLEAR?
A-AREN'T YOU GONNA SAY ANYTHING?
WHY? IT'S YOUR BEAK!
ZIP

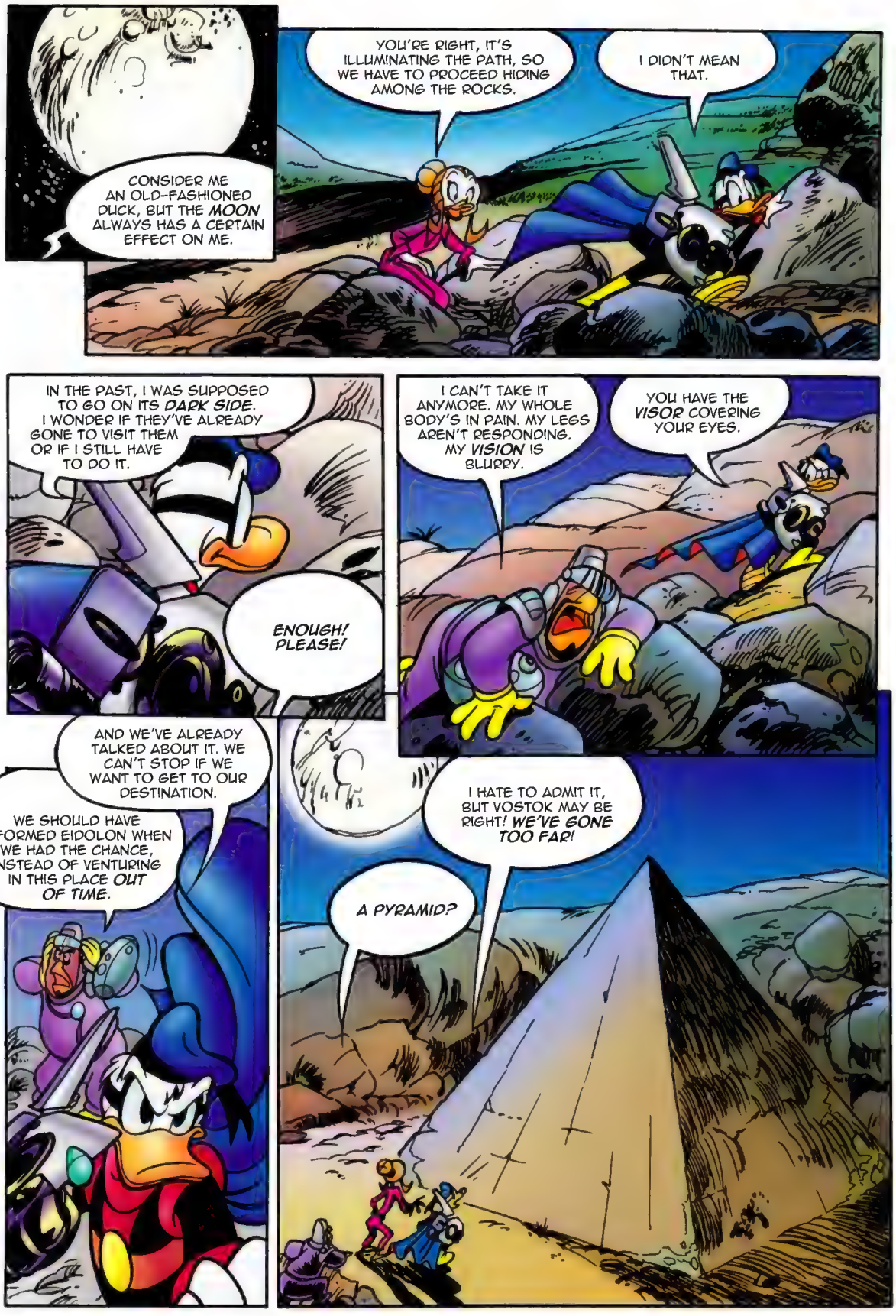
AND NOW IT'S TIME TO GET GOING AND... OH NO!
UNBELIEVABLE, MY WATCH HAS STOPPED!
EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT TIME IT IS?
WHAT TIME ARE YOU REFERRING TO, MAN?
I HAVE IT FOR ALL TASTES. HAPPY TIMES. TIMES OF ANGUISH. DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHEN YOUR TIME COMES?
GOT IT. THANKS ANYWAY.
I SAID IT. THIS IS PRECISELY A BIZARRE CENTURY.
WOOOSSSH
WHAT A RUSH! EVEN IF YOU RUN, YOU CAN NO LONGER REACH ME. EVEN IF YOU FLY, YOU CAN NO LONGER ESCAPE ME, RAIDER.

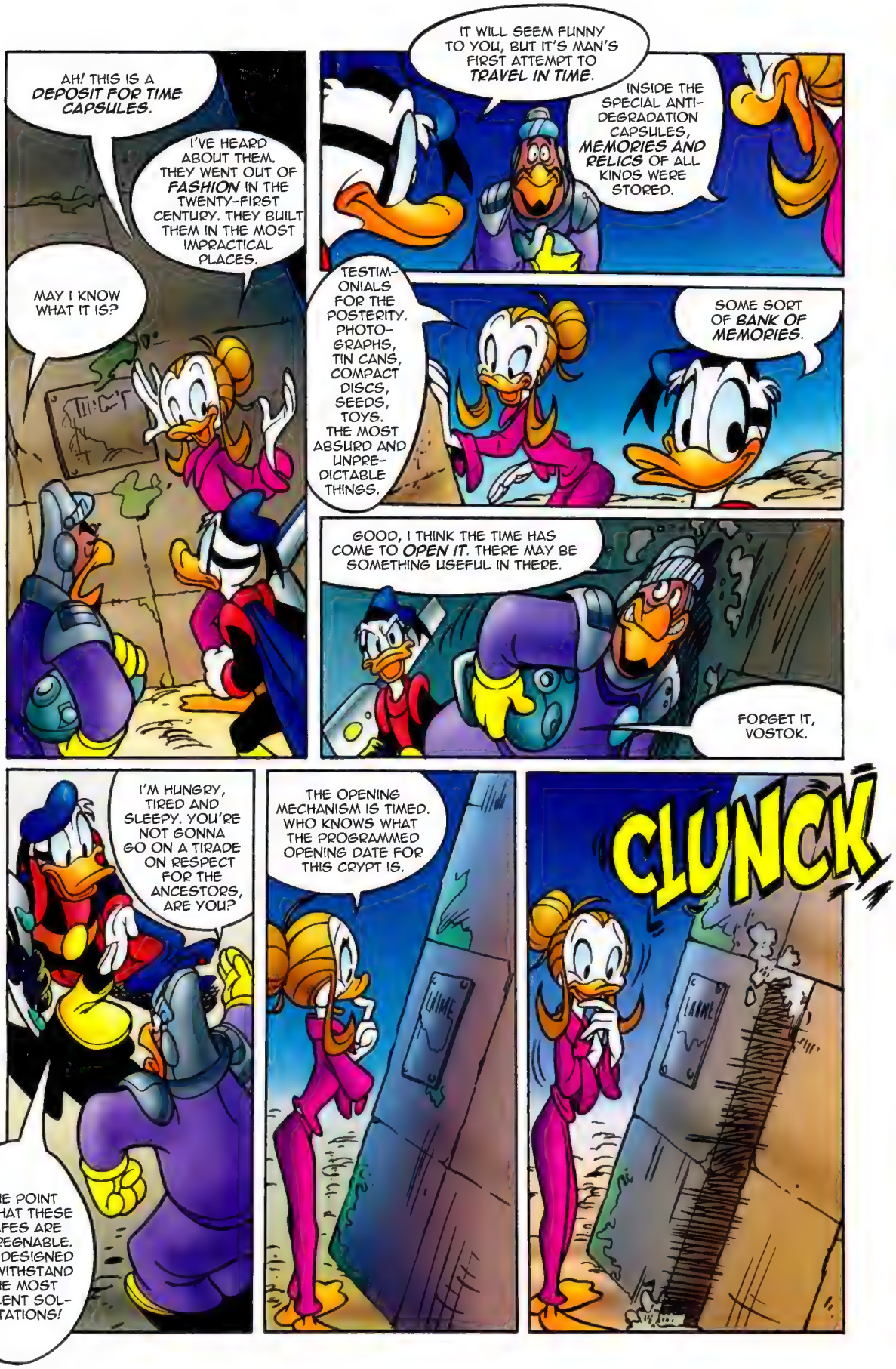
THE RAIDER, EH?
HE WASN'T ALONE, THEN.
NO, SIR. A SMALL WELL-ARMED ARMY ARRIVED, BUT WE HELD THEM OFF.
IT'S ALL IN THE HANDS OF THE DUCK AVENGER AND LYLA NOW.
IF I MAY, THAT DUCK DOESN'T SEEM UP TO THE TASK.
IN FACT, NOW THERE'S A REAL RISK THE MISSION WILL COME TO A GOOD END! HE HE!
?
I ONLY HOPE THAT MY OLD FRIEND DOESN'T DO EVERYTHING HIS OWN WAY.
I ALREADY TOLD YOU! WE'LL DO AS I SAY!

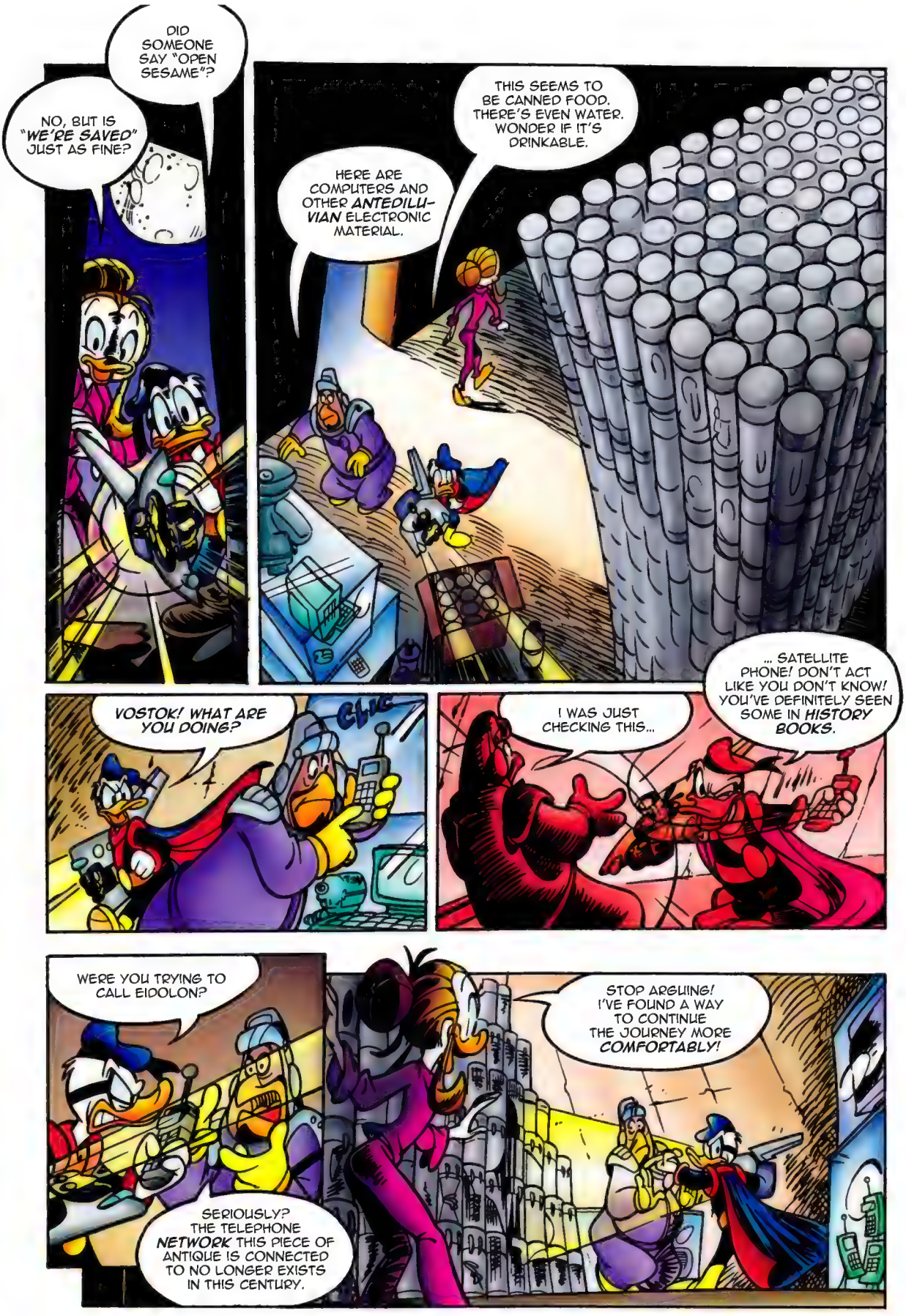

TAKING THE OLD HIGHWAY DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A GREAT IDEA.
I HAVE TO AGREE WITH VOSTOK. THESE ASPHALT ROADS HAVEN'T BEEN USED FOR CENTURIES.
NOWADAYS EVERYONE TRAVELS ABOVE THE GROUND. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT ON THIS LEVEL.
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE. THE TAX HAS RUN OUT OF FUEL AND I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER MEANS OF TRANSPORT.
ALRIGHT. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ROAD GOES RIGHT IN OUR DIRECTION.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. THERE ARE NO MORE RUNNERS IN THIS ERA.
MOVE IT, VOSTOK. AND STOP COMPLAINING.
AND THEN I HAVE A BAD PRESENTIMENT. MY CALVES HURT SO MUCH.
IT'S THE LACTIC ACID. YOU JUST HAVE TO PUT THE MUSCLES IN YOUR LEGS INTO MOTION.
WAIT, I'VE ALWAYS FLOWN. HOW DO YOU THINK I COULD MAINTAIN THIS ENVIABLE FIGURE? BY WALKING?
WHY? THERE ARE ALSO MUSCLES IN THE LEGS?

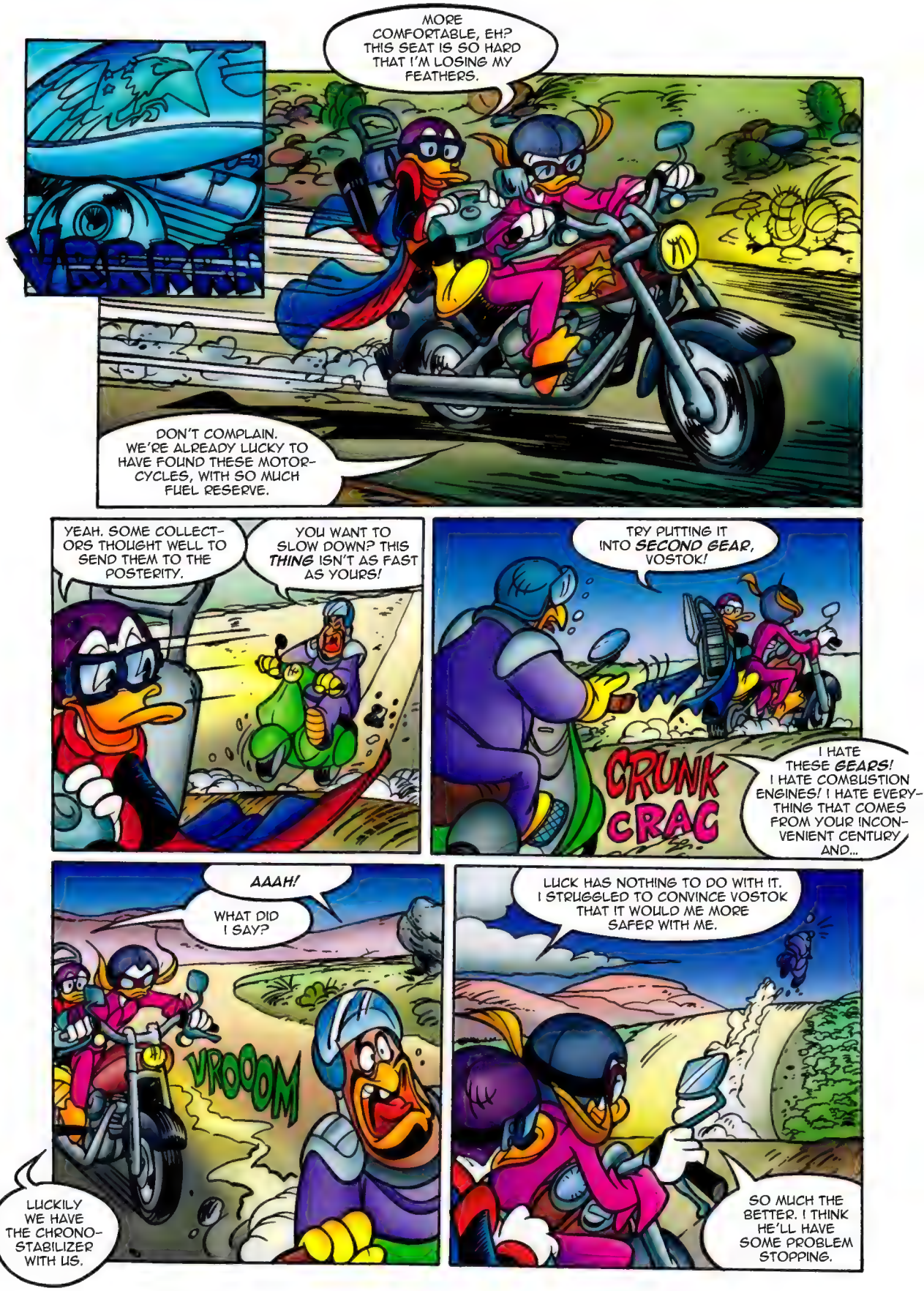

ARE YOU SURE YOU KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING, DUCK AVENGER?
YOU KNOW ME, LYLA. OBVIOUSLY, NO!
I COUNT ON MAKING UP TOMORROW WITH SOME BRILLIANT IDEA. THE NIGHT BRINGS COUNSEL.
YEAH, BUT LET'S HOPE THAT IT DOESN'T ALSO BRING SOMETHING ELSE.
"FOR EXAMPLE, INVISIBLE FIGHTERS WITHNIGHT VISION INSTRUMENTS."
FALCON CALLING NEST. FALCON CALLING NEST. WE'VE FOUND THE CAR USED BY THE PREY.
IN WHAT KIND OF WAY ARE YOU EXPRESSING, NEWTON?
EHEM... IT'S A FORM IN CODE, BUT I'LL IMMEDIATELY CHANGE IDIOM, SIR.
GOOD. NOW TELL ME HOW OUR FRIENDS DISAPPEARED IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT DESERT.
THEY MUST HAVE CHANGED MEANS OF AVIATION. THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION.
PERHAPS THEY CONTINUED...
... ON FOOT? IN THESE TIMES AND WITH THE HURRY THEY'RE IN? YOU'RE IN NEED OF A CHECK, MR. NEWTON.


SEARCH ALL FLIGHT ROUTES AND PLEASE, TAKE OFF THAT TIE! YOU DON'T WANT YOUR INVISIBLE FIGHTER TO BE VISIBLE, RIGHT?
HUH? YES SIR! I MEAN, NO SIR!
BAH! AS IF SOMEONE COULD SEE ME IN THIS CLOSED COCKPIT!
NICE TIE, MR. NEWTON!
DIME SERVICE
THE RAPTOR DIDN'T KEEP HIS WORD. TOO BAD FOR HIM. IN THE MEANTIME, LET'S SEE IF THE ROBOT CABBIE CAN HELP ME.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR LAST CUSTOMERS ARE HEADED?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT? THOSE... GRZZZ... I HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN PAID FOR THE RIDE! BRAGZZZ...
GRRR! BZZZ...
TAXI
PATIENCE. TO FIND THE DUCK AVENGER, I'LL HAVE TO THINK LIKE HIM.
AND HE'S AN OLD-FASHIONED TYPE.


CONSIDER ME AN OLD-FASHIONED DUCK, BUT THE MOON ALWAYS HAS A CERTAIN EFFECT ON ME.
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT'S ILLUMINATING THE PATH, SO WE HAVE TO PROCEED HIDING AMONG THE ROCKS.
I DIDN'T MEAN THAT.
IN THE PAST, I WAS SUPPOSED TO GO ON ITS DARK SIDE. I WONDER IF THEY'VE ALREADY GONE TO VISIT THEM OR IF I STILL HAVE TO DO IT.
ENOUGH! PLEASE!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE. MY WHOLE BODY'S IN PAIN. MY LEGS AREN'T RESPONDING. MY VISION IS BLURRY.
YOU HAVE THE VISOR COVERING YOUR EYES.
AND WE'VE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT IT. WE CAN'T STOP IF WE WANT TO GET TO OUR DESTINATION.
WE SHOULD HAVE INFORMED EIDOLON WHEN WE HAD THE CHANCE, INSTEAD OF VENTURING IN THIS PLACE OUT OF TIME.
I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT VOSTOK MAY BE RIGHT! WE'VE GONE TOO FAR!
A PYRAMID?


AH! THIS IS A DEPOSIT FOR TIME CAPSULES.
I'VE HEARD ABOUT THEM. THEY WENT OUT OF FASHION IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. THEY BUILT THEM IN THE MOST IMPRACTICAL PLACES.
MAY I KNOW WHAT IT IS?
IT WILL SEEM FUNNY TO YOU, BUT IT'S MAN'S FIRST ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL IN TIME.
INSIDE THE SPECIAL ANTI-DEGRADATION CAPSULES, MEMORIES AND RELICS OF ALL KINDS WERE STORED.
TESTIM-ONIALS FOR THE POSTERITY. PHOTO-GRAPHS, TIN CANS, COMPACT DISCS, SEEDS, TOYS. THE MOST ABSURD AND UNPRE-DICTABLE THINGS.
SOME SORT OF BANK OF MEMORIES.
GOOD, I THINK THE TIME HAS COME TO OPEN IT. THERE MAY BE SOMETHING USEFUL IN THERE.
FORGET IT, VOSTOK.
I'M HUNGRY, TIRED AND SLEEPY. YOU'RE NOT GONNA GO ON A TIRADE ON RESPECT FOR THE ANCESTORS, ARE YOU?
THE POINT IS THAT THESE SAFES ARE IMPREGNABLE. IT'S DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND THE MOST VIOLENT SOL-ICITATIONS!
THE OPENING MECHANISM IS TIMED. WHO KNOWS WHAT THE PROGRAMMED OPENING DATE FOR THIS CRYPT IS.
CLUNCK


DID SOMEONE SAY "OPEN SESAME"?
NO, BUT IS "WE'RE SAVED" JUST AS FINE?
THIS SEEMS TO BE CANNED FOOD. THERE'S EVEN WATER. WONDER IF IT'S DRINKABLE.
HERE ARE COMPUTERS AND OTHER ANTEDILUVIAN ELECTRONIC MATERIAL.
VOSTOK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
CLIC
I WAS JUST CHECKING THIS...
... SATELLITE PHONE! DON'T ACT LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW! YOU'VE DEFINITELY SEEN SOME IN HISTORY BOOKS.
WERE YOU TRYING TO CALL EIDOLON?
SERIOUSLY? THE TELEPHONE NETWORK THIS PIECE OF ANTIQUE IS CONNECTED TO NO LONGER EXISTS IN THIS CENTURY.
STOP ARGUING! I'VE FOUND A WAY TO CONTINUE THE JOURNEY MORE COMFORTABLY!


VRRRRR
MORE COMFORTABLE, EH? THIS SEAT IS SO HARD THAT I'M LOSING MY FEATHERS.
DON'T COMPLAIN. WE'RE ALREADY LUCKY TO HAVE FOUND THESE MOTOR-CYCLES, WITH SO MUCH FUEL RESERVE.
YEAH. SOME COLLECT-ORS THOUGHT WELL TO SEND THEM TO THE POSTERITY.
YOU WANT TO SLOW DOWN? THIS THING ISN'T AS FAST AS YOURS!
TRY PUTTING IT INTO SECOND GEAR, VOSTOK!
CRUNK CRAC
I HATE THESE GEARS! I HATE COMBUSTION ENGINES! I HATE EVERY-THING THAT COMES FROM YOUR INCON-VENIENT CENTURY AND...
AAAH!
WHAT DID I SAY?
VROOOM
LUCKILY WE HAVE THE CHRONO-STABILIZER WITH US.
LUCK HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. I STRUGGLED TO CONVINCE VOSTOK THAT IT WOULD ME MORE SAFER WITH ME.
SO MUCH THE BETTER. I THINK HE'LL HAVE SOME PROBLEM STOPPING.

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT, IN THE TWENTY-THIRD CENTURY, WE'D GO ON AN ADVENTURE *ON THE ROAD*?
YEAH. THESE PLACES *SEEM* UNCONTAMINATED.
I'LL TELL YOU THAT THE SKY EVEN HAS A COLOR MORE... BLUE.
IT'S AN EFFECT CREATED BY *ATMOSPHERIC RESTORATIONISTS* THAT DAILY REGENERATES THE *HOLE IN THE OZONE*.
AH! IF NOTHING ELSE, THE NATURE IS STILL INTACT.
WHAT YOU SEE ARE *MUTATED* PLANTS. THE ONLY ONES ABLE TO SURVIVE THE *ACID RAIN* IN THIS AREA.
YOU DON'T SAY. AND THE FRIENDLY *LITTLE ANIMALS* I SAW EARLIER?
WHAT ANIMALS AND *WHERE* DID YOU SEE THEM?
WELL, THERE WERE TWO OR THREE. THEY LOOKED LIKE SMALL PRAIRIE DOGS AND WERE MERRILY HOPPING RIGHT...
... *BEHIND US!*
RUUU
-MBLE

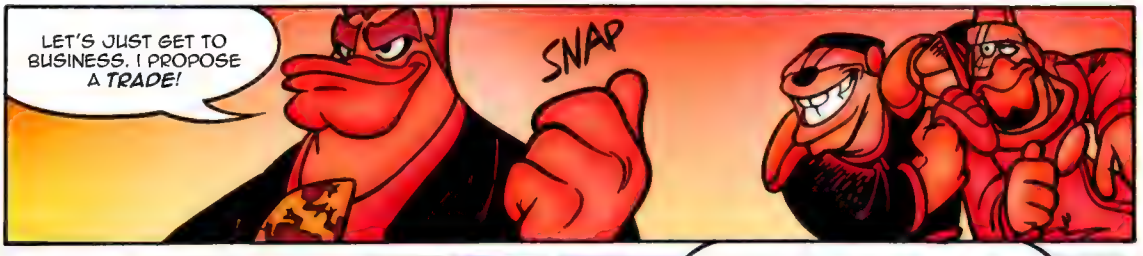
WE HAVE TO LOSE THEM! THIS IS A NEW SPECIES THAT'S VERY AGGRESSIVE AND VORACIOUS!
BUT WHAT HAPPENED? ARE WE ON ANOTHER PLANET?
NO, BUT WE'VE PASSED THROUGH A HIGH-RISK AREA. HERE, A FEW CENTURIES AGO, STOOD AN IMPORTANT POWER STATION!
WHAT YOU SEE IS THE RESULT OF A SCARY ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER.
WE DO THE SAME AS VOSTOK. ACCELERATE AND, PASSING THAT PROMONTORY, REACH OUR NEXT STOP.
LONG LIVE THE ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES. WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
LET ME PRESENT HAVENTVILLE, A PLEASANT GHOST TOWN AT THE FEET OF THE ABANDONED STATION. IDEAL FOR A PICNIC AND A RELAXING WEEKEND.
VERY FUNNY! I CAN HEAR THOUSANDS OF SHARP TEETH SMILING AT MY BACK.

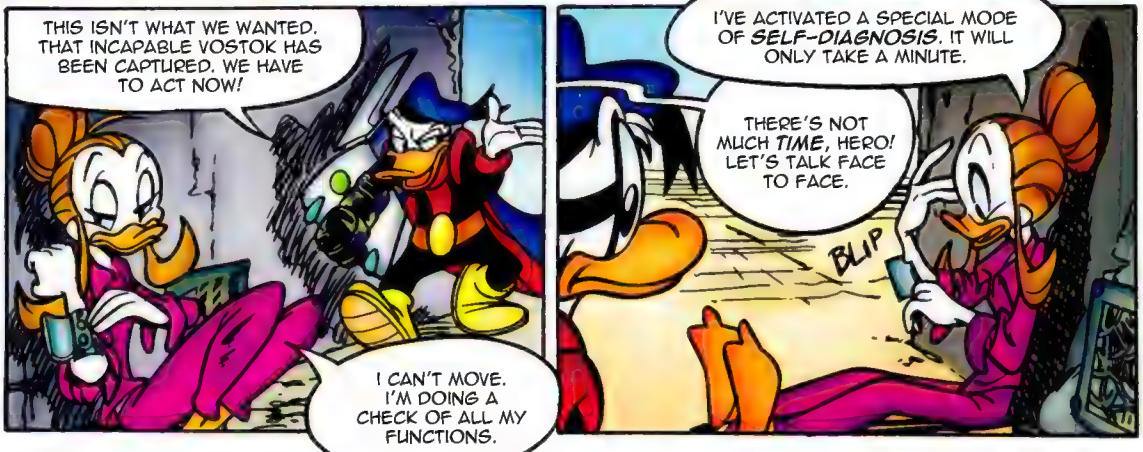
THEY'RE COMING.
HEY! WHY ARE THE ANIMALS STOPPING?
I DON'T KNOW. PERHAPS WE'RE COMING OUT OF THEIR HUNTING GROUNDS.
YOU'RE THEORY ISN'T FLAWLESS! COULD YOU ALSO EXPLAIN IT TO MY FRIEND HERE?
GRRR!
LOOK, IT'S VOSTOK'S BIKE.
APPARENTLY, HE FOUND A WAY TO STOP.
MAIL
STRANGE. I DON'T DETECT HIS PRESENCE WITHIN FIFTY METERS.
I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL! AND LET GO OFF MY CAPE, YOU!
I HAVE THE DUCK AVENGER IN SIGHT, BOSS.
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? FIRE AWAY!

GRRR!
I TOLD YOU TO LET GO OFF MY...
KRAK
TWINNN
?
GET OUT OF HERE! WE'RE UNDER FIRE!
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
CAIIIN
TWINNN
THE ORGANIZATION! HOW DID THEY FIND US?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT THERE AREN'T ONLY SNIPERS. I DETECT THE NOISE OF A REACTOR OF A...
... FIGHTER!
?
WOOOSSSH

KRAAAAM
TOOOM
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
EXECUTING ORDERS, SIR! WE MUST ELIMINATE THE SUBJECTS!
I DION'T TELL YOU TO DISINTEGRATE THEM! THEY HAVE THE CHRONOSTABILIZER WITH THEM! FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL ONLY SHOOT AFTER MY ORDER! IS THAT CLEAR?
HUH? YES SIR!

EVERYTHING ALRIGHT, LYLA? WERE YOU HIT?
YES, BUT IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS.
DUCK AVENGER!
I KNOW THAT VOICE!
NEWTON! LONG TIME NO SEE. I SEE THAT YOU STILL HAVE THE SAME TASTES, IN TERMS OF TIES.
I WASN'T PROGRAMMED FOR RETURNS AND, THIS TIME, WE'RE ON OPPOSITE SIDES.

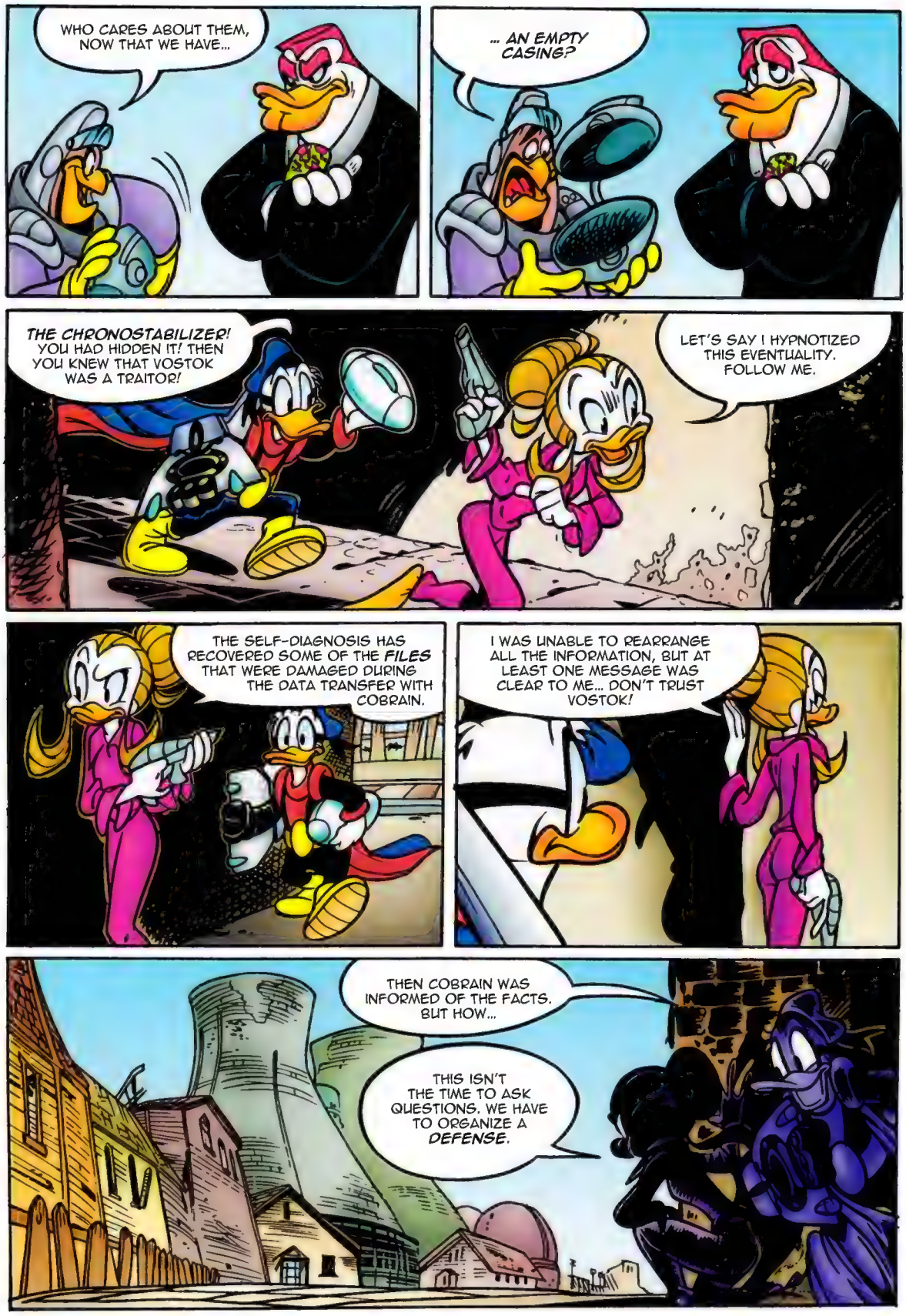

LET'S JUST GET TO BUSINESS. I PROPOSE A TRADE!
SNAP


THIS ISN'T WHAT WE WANTED. THAT INCAPABLE VOSTOK HAS BEEN CAPTURED. WE HAVE TO ACT NOW!
I CAN'T MOVE. I'M DOING A CHECK OF ALL MY FUNCTIONS.
I'VE ACTIVATED A SPECIAL MODE OF SELF-DIAGNOSIS. IT WILL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE.
THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME, HERO! LET'S TALK FACE TO FACE.
BLIP

I'M SORRY, PAL, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO SETTLE...
... FOR A DENSO-PLASTIC HOLO-PROJECTION!
THAT'S BETTER, DUCK. THE SITUATION IS TERRIBLY SIMPLE. VOSTOK IN EXCHANGE FOR THE CHRONOSTABILIZER.
DON'T DO IT, DUCK AVENGER! HE WON'T LET ME GO. THE ORGANIZATION DOESN'T HAVE A SENSE OF HONOR.
SAID BY A TRAITOR LIKE YOU, VOSTOK, IT SOUNDS BAD. SO, DUCK AVENGER. DO YOU AGREE OR NOT?
TKLAK
CAN I THINK ABOUT IT?
?
WACK

SHOULD WE FIRE?
DO WHAT YOU WANT! I, WITHOUT ORDERS, WON'T EVEN TOUCH THE TRIGGER!
WOOOM
SHOOT, BUNGLERS!
BRAAAP
BRAAAP
BRAAAP
FTOOOM
K-POW
K-POW
YEAH, BUT LET'S NOT ASK FOR TOO MUCH LUCK! IF YOU'RE FINISHED WITH THE SELF-DIAGNOSIS, LET'S TAKE THE CHRONOSTABILIZER AND...
YOU MADE IT!
... RETURN IT TO ME!

YOU'RE A DOUBLE AGENT! I HAD IMAGINED!
I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU PUT THE SHIELD DOWN, DUCK AVENGER, WHILE LYLA GIVES ME WHAT I WANT.
YOU HAD THE CHRONOSTABILIZER IN YOUR HANDS FOR THE ENTIRE TRIP. WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO TAKE IT ONLY NOW?
BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW EARLIER HOW TO NOTIFY MY COLLEAGUES.
I BET THAT THE SIGNAL FROM THE SATELLITE PHONE WAS TRACEABLE.
EXACTLY! I'M SORRY, BUT MY TASK WAS TO EXPLOIT THE GENIUS AND MIND OF ODIN EIDOLON FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ORGANIZATION.
AND WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH US NOW?
NOTHING. I'M JUST A SCIENTIST. I LEAVE THE REST TO THE PROFESSIONALS. BYE BYE!
GRRR!
LET HIM GO, DUCK AVENGER.
GOOD WORK, VOSTOK. WHERE DID THOSE TWO GO?
HERE I AM, BOYS!

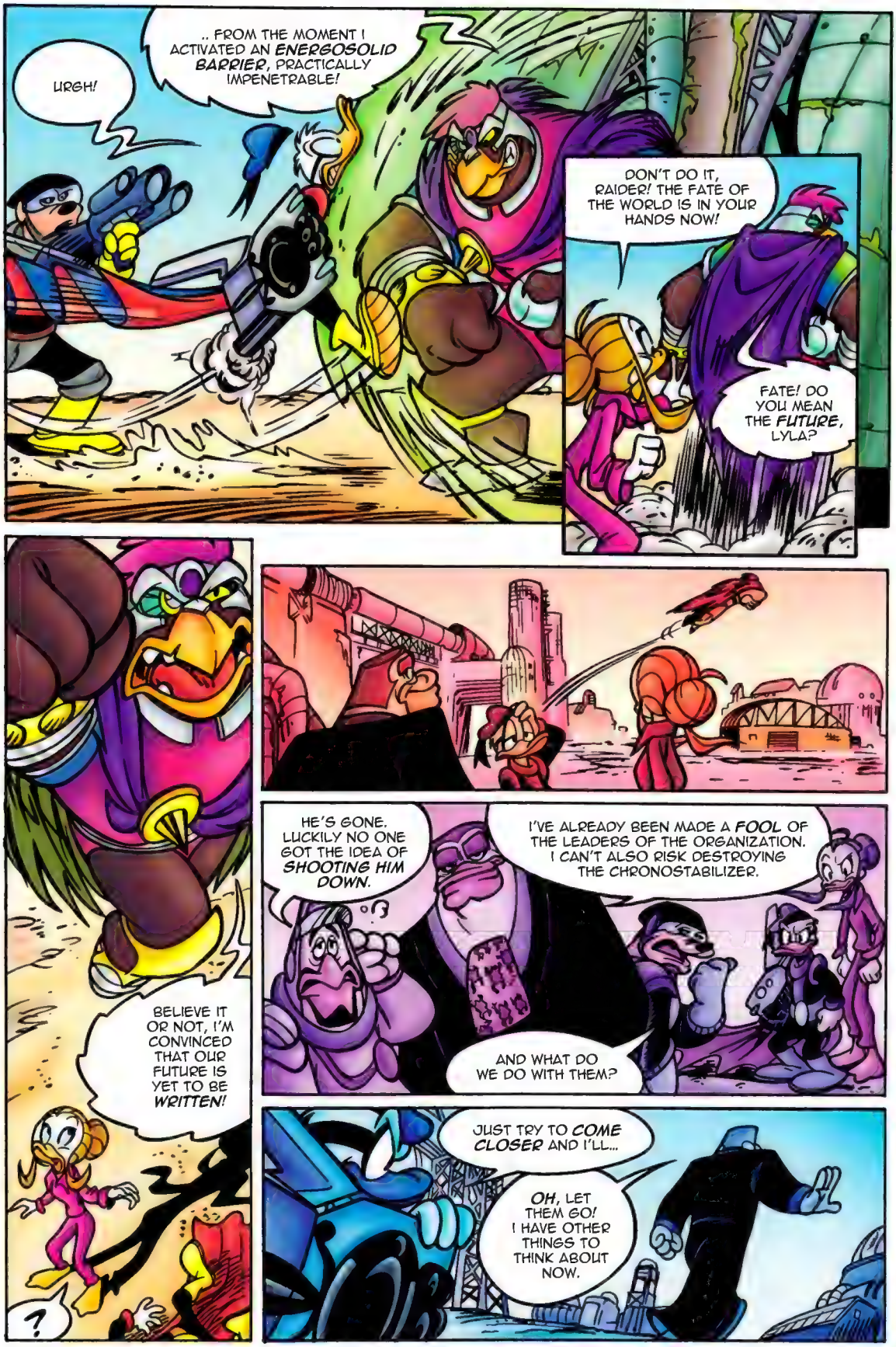

WHO CARES ABOUT THEM, NOW THAT WE HAVE...
... AN EMPTY CASING?
THE CHRONOSTABILIZER! YOU HAD HIDDEN IT! THEN YOU KNEW THAT VOSTOK WAS A TRAITOR!
LET'S SAY I HYPNOTIZED THIS EVENTUALITY. FOLLOW ME.
THE SELF-DIAGNOSIS HAS RECOVERED SOME OF THE FILES THAT WERE DAMAGED DURING THE DATA TRANSFER WITH COBRAIN.
I WAS UNABLE TO REARRANGE ALL THE INFORMATION, BUT AT LEAST ONE MESSAGE WAS CLEAR TO ME... DON'T TRUST VOSTOK!
THEN COBRAIN WAS INFORMED OF THE FACTS. BUT HOW...
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO ASK QUESTIONS. WE HAVE TO ORGANIZE A DEFENSE.

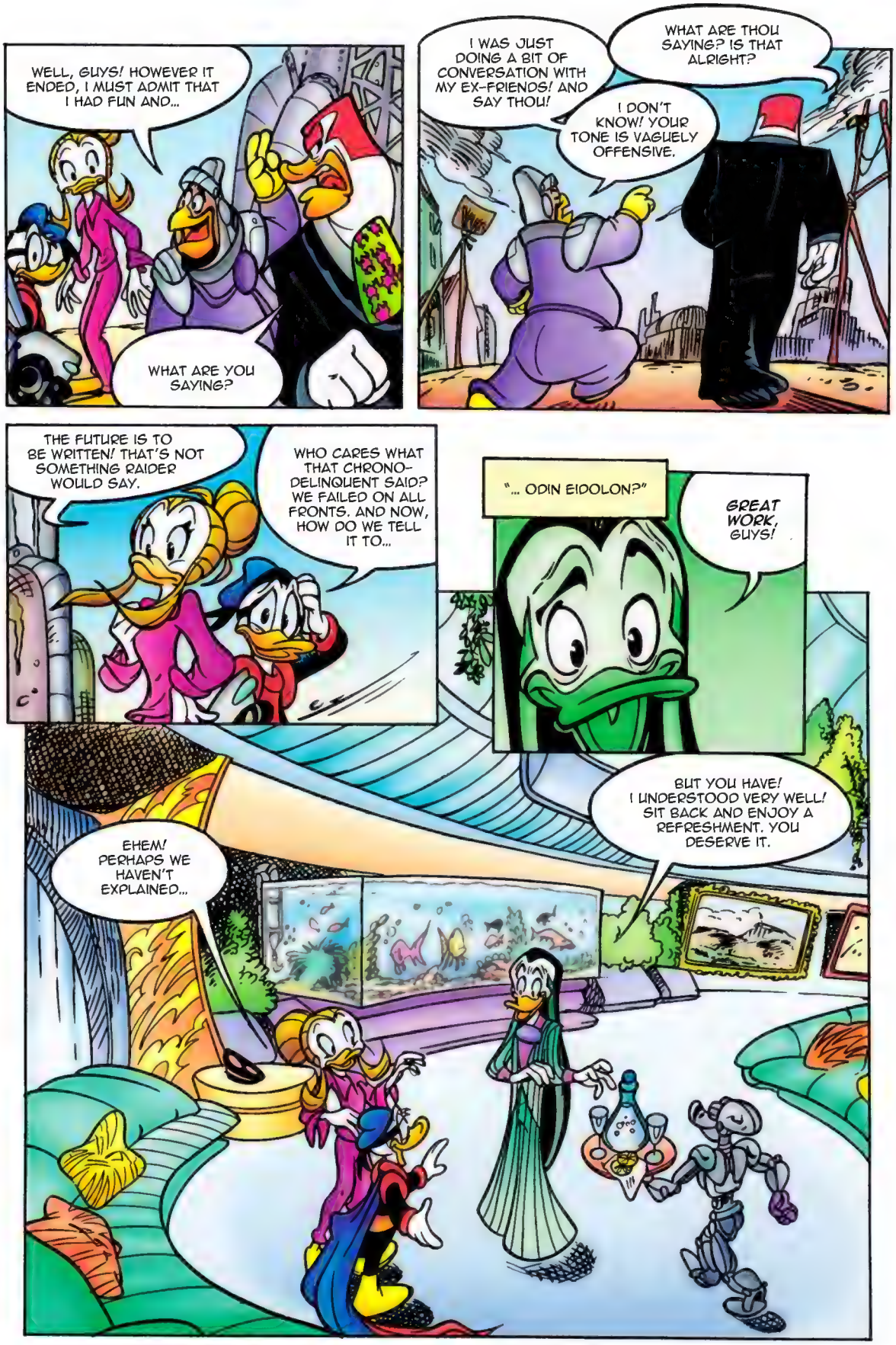
"I ANTICIPATE A MASSIVE ATTACK!"
YOU'RE AN IDIOT! HOW COULD YOU NOT NOTICE THAT THE CASING WAS LIGHTER?
I'M A SCHOLAR, NOT A SCALE! AND START SAYING THOU! WE'RE NO LONGER ACTING NOW!
THOU ARE AN IDIOT! IS THAT BETTER?
THANK YOU.
SIR!
WE'VE INTERCEPTED THEM. THEY'RE HEADING TOWARDS THE ABANDONED STATION.
GOOD! ALL AVAILABLE MEANS WILL CONVERGE TOWARDS...
NO!
NO WEAPONS! THE CHRONO-STABILIZER IS OUT OF THE CASING AND IS VERY DELICATE! JUST ONE HIT AND GOODBYE ORGANIZATION!
CONVERGE AND TAKE THEM WITHOUT SHOOTING! IS THAT CLEAR? I ALSO SPEAK FOR SOME FLYING DUFFERS!
IS HE MAD AT US?
IMAGINE THAT! IN ANY CASE, I'LL DEACTIVATE ALL WEAPONS!

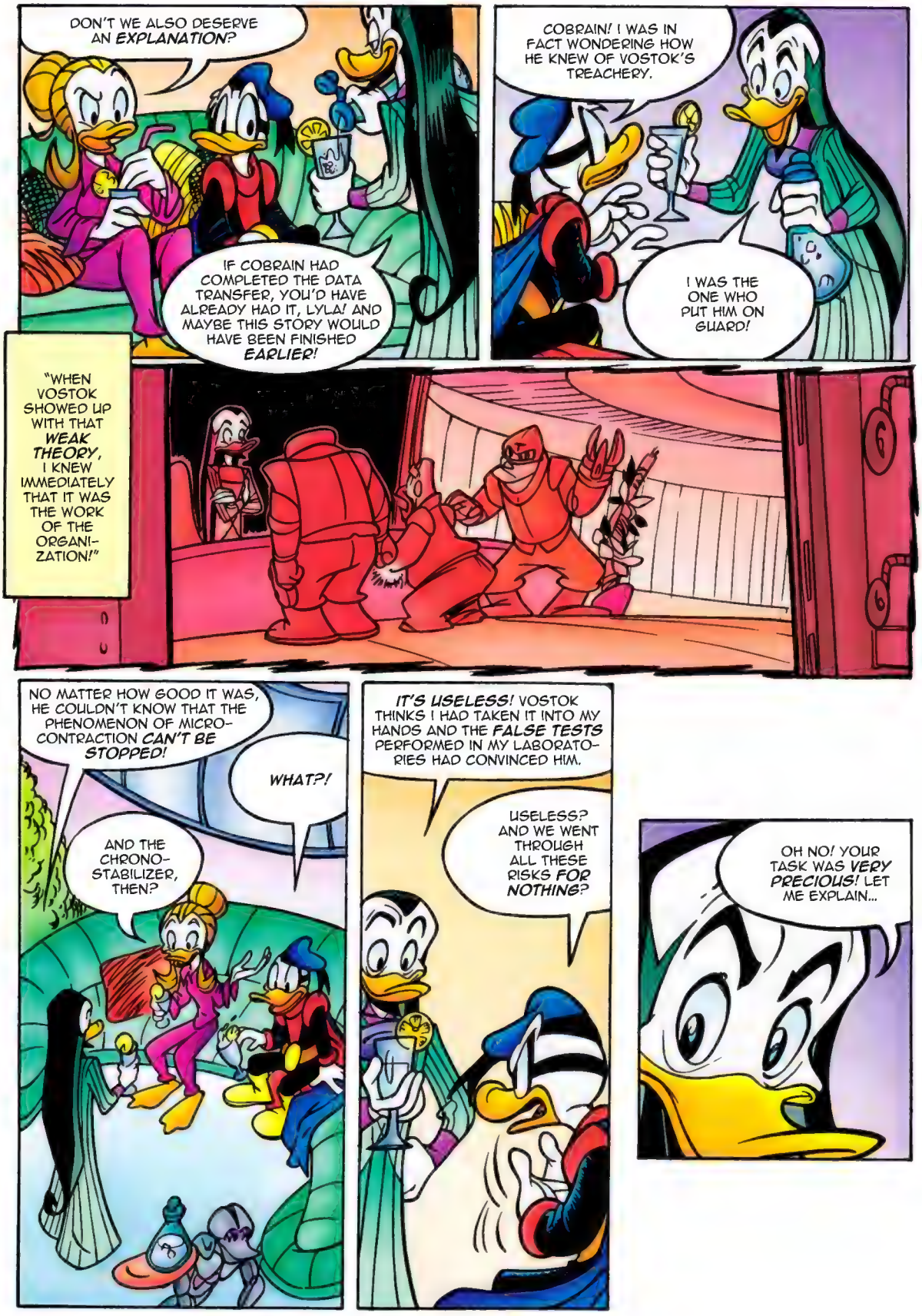
HERE WE ARE! THAT'S THE ENTRANCE TO THE STATION. BARRICADED IN THERE, WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO RESIST.
I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL! WHAT IF WERE SUDDENLY ATTACKED BY THE MEN OF...
... THE ORGANIZATION. GASP!
GET THEM!
WELL? THEY'RE NOT SHOOTING?
THEY'RE AFRAID OF HITTING THE CHRONO-STABILIZER.
HMM! DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT I SAID ABOUT THE FORM OF THIS CHRONOTHING?
SURE! IT'S YOU WHO'S FORGOTTEN MY PAST AS SPORTS REPORTER.
GOOD, THEN... PASS!
WOOOSSSH
?
?

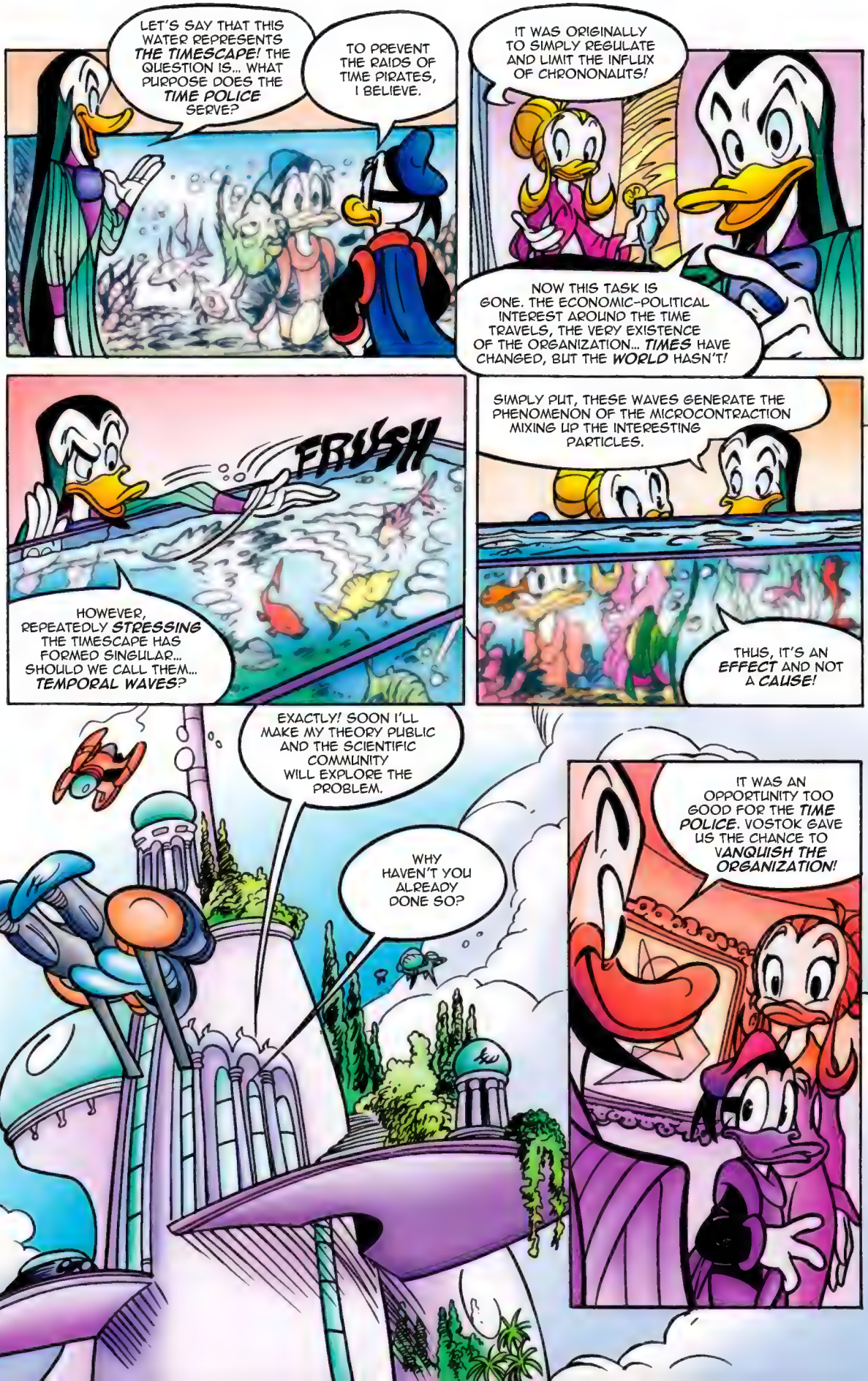
GOT IT! THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL A THROW!
TACKLE HIM! I WANT THAT BALL... EHEM... THAT CHRONOSTABILIZER!
URGH!
OUFF!
GOT YOU!
TO YOU, LYLA!
HOP!
NOOO! YOU'LL DROP IT LIKE THAT!
WHAT ARE THEY DOING? PLAYING SOME ANTEDILUVIAN GAMES?
YOU WANT TO GET OUT AND CHEER?
COME ON, LYLA!
OOOF!
HERE IT COMES!
CAUGHT.

YOU AGAIN? LET GO OFF THAT OBJECT!
YEAH! IT BELONGS TO US!
POOR FOOLS! IT'S TRUE THAT WHILE TWO DISPUTE, THE THIRD ENJOYS.
I AM THE RAIDER AND THIS IS MY BOOTY! TRY TO GET CLOSE AND I'LL BLOW IT UP!
STOP!
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
WHAT YOU WOULD DO! EXPECT I'LL HAVE A LITTLE EXTRA INCENTIVE.
YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN PAID BY THE ORGANIZATION.
THERE ARE THINGS THAT DON'T HAVE A PRICE.
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
SWISSS
I DON'T FALL FOR IT A SECOND TIME, DUCK AVENGER!
YOU WON'T SHOOT THAT CHRONOTHING, RAIDER! TRAVELLING IN TIME INTERESTS YOU TOO! I'LL HAVE IT, OR NO ONE ELSE WILL!
BLIP
COMMENDABLE INITIATIVE, DUCK AVENGER! BUT ABSOLUTELY USELESS...

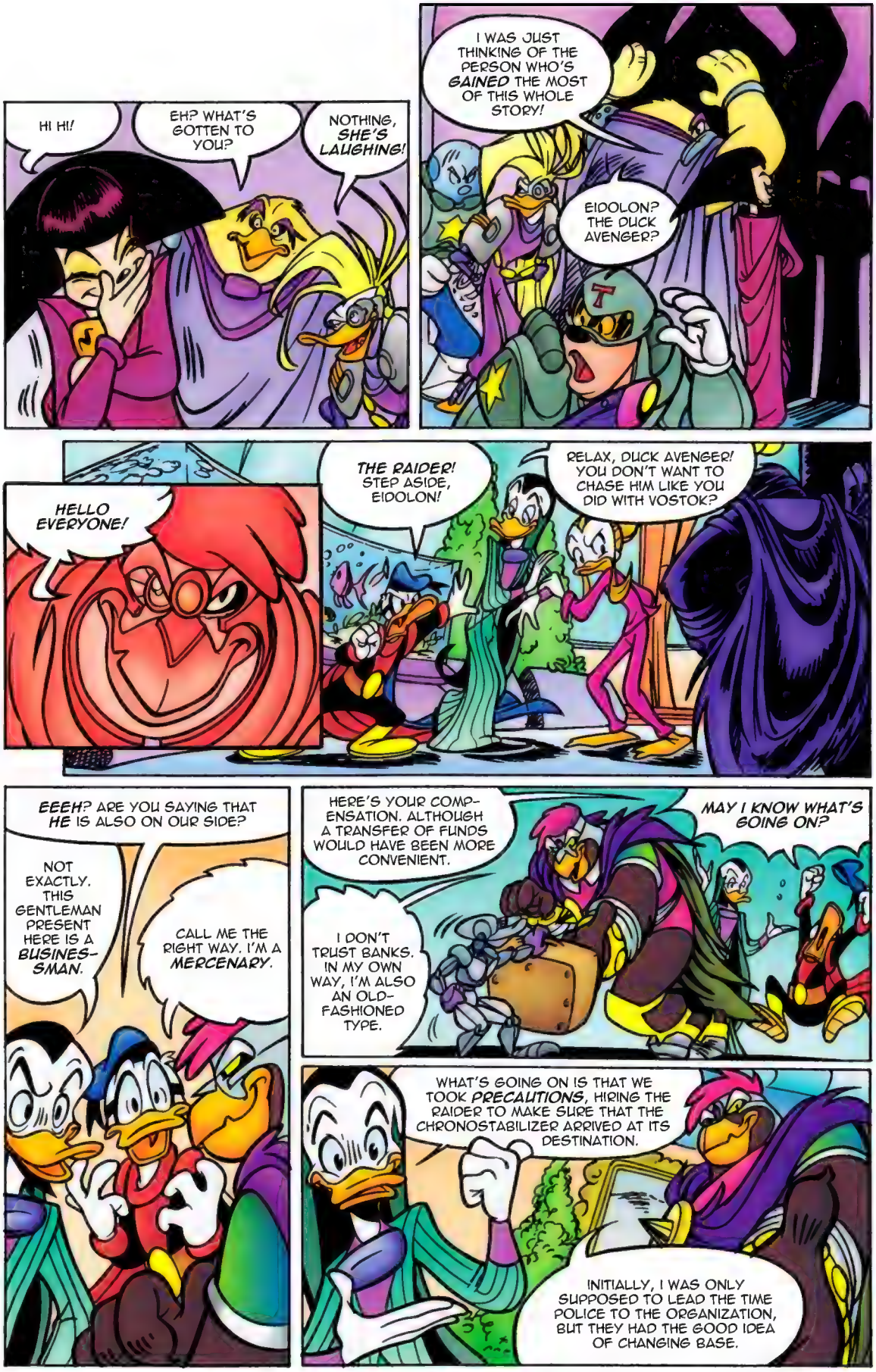

URGH!
.. FROM THE MOMENT I ACTIVATED AN ENERGOSOLID BARRIER, PRACTICALLY IMPENETRABLE!
DON'T DO IT, RAIDER! THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS IN YOUR HANDS NOW!
FATE! DO YOU MEAN THE FUTURE, LYLA?
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M CONVINCED THAT OUR FUTURE IS YET TO BE WRITTEN!
?
HE'S GONE. LUCKILY NO ONE GOT THE IDEA OF SHOOTING HIM DOWN.
I'VE ALREADY BEEN MADE A FOOL OF THE LEADERS OF THE ORGANIZATION. I CAN'T ALSO RISK DESTROYING THE CHRONOSTABILIZER.
AND WHAT DO WE DO WITH THEM?
JUST TRY TO COME CLOSER AND I'LL...
OH, LET THEM GO! I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT NOW.

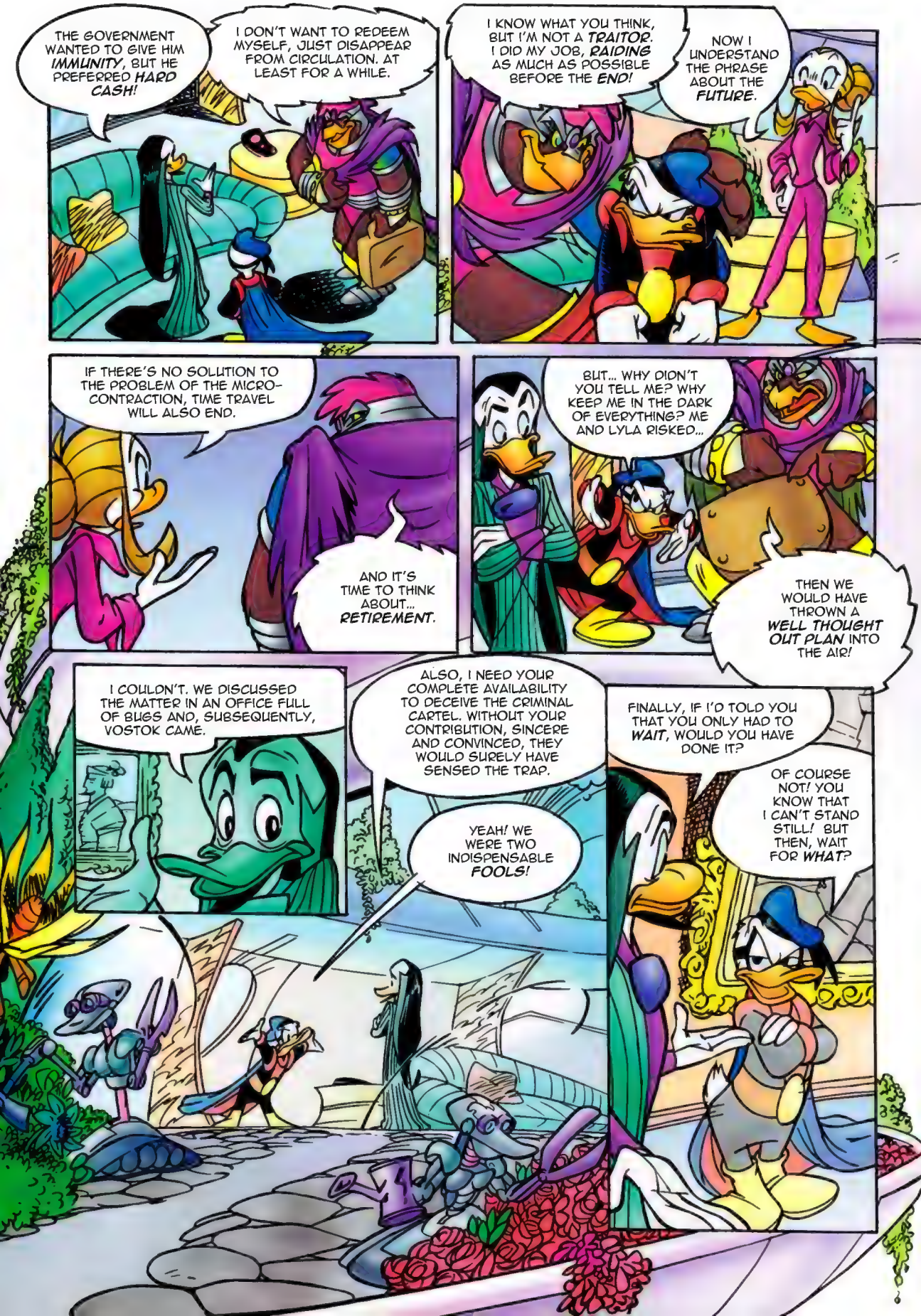

WELL, GUYS! HOWEVER IT ENDED, I MUST ADMIT THAT I HAD FUN AND...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I WAS JUST DOING A BIT OF CONVERSATION WITH MY EX-FRIENDS! AND SAY THOU!
WHAT ARE THOU SAYING? IS THAT ALRIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW! YOUR TONE IS VAGUELY OFFENSIVE.
THE FUTURE IS TO BE WRITTEN! THAT'S NOT SOMETHING RAIDER WOULD SAY.
WHO CARES WHAT THAT CHRONO-DELINQUENT SAID? WE FAILED ON ALL FRONTS. AND NOW, HOW DO WE TELL IT TO...
"... ODIN EIDOLON?"
GREAT WORK, GUYS!
EHEM! PERHAPS WE HAVEN'T EXPLAINED...
BUT YOU HAVE! I UNDERSTOOD VERY WELL! SIT BACK AND ENJOY A REFRESHMENT. YOU DESERVE IT.

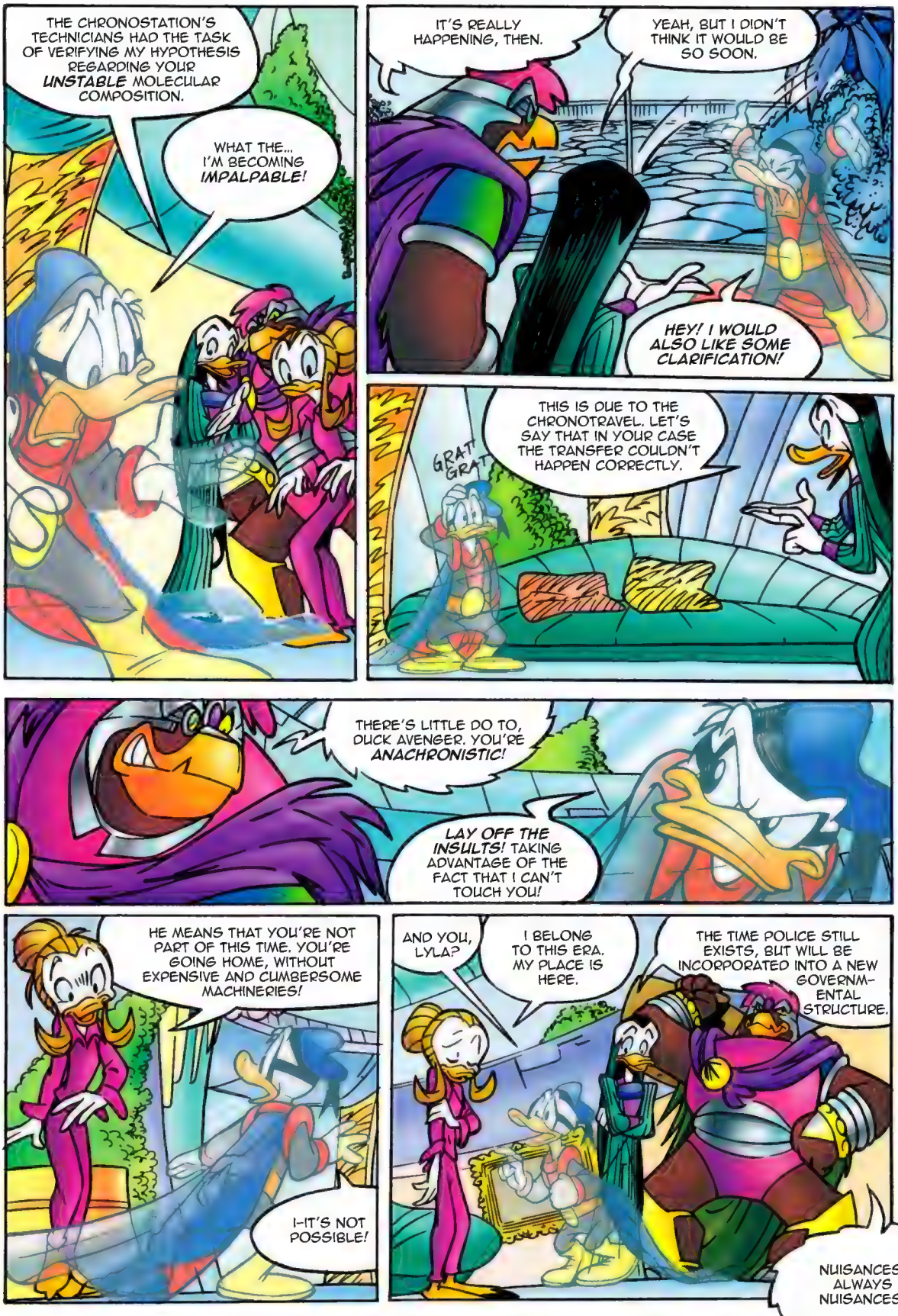

DON'T WE ALSO DESERVE AN *EXPLANATION*?
IF COBRAIN HAD COMPLETED THE DATA TRANSFER, YOU'D HAVE ALREADY HAD IT, LYLA! AND MAYBE THIS STORY WOULD HAVE BEEN FINISHED *EARLIER*!
COBRAIN! I WAS IN FACT WONDERING HOW HE KNEW OF VOSTOK'S TREACHERY.
I WAS THE ONE WHO PUT HIM ON GUARD!
"WHEN VOSTOK SHOWED UP WITH THAT *WEAK THEORY*, I KNEW IMMEDIATELY THAT IT WAS THE WORK OF THE ORGANI-ZATION!"
NO MATTER HOW GOOD IT WAS, HE COULDN'T KNOW THAT THE PHENOMENON OF MICRO-CONTRACTION *CAN'T BE STOPPED*!
WHAT?!
AND THE CHRONO-STABILIZER, THEN?
IT'S USELESS! VOSTOK THINKS I HAD TAKEN IT INTO MY HANDS AND THE *FALSE TESTS* PERFORMED IN MY LABORATO-RIES HAD CONVINCED HIM.
USELESS? AND WE WENT THROUGH ALL THESE RISKS *FOR NOTHING*?
OH NO! YOUR TASK WAS *VERY PRECIOUS!* LET ME EXPLAIN...

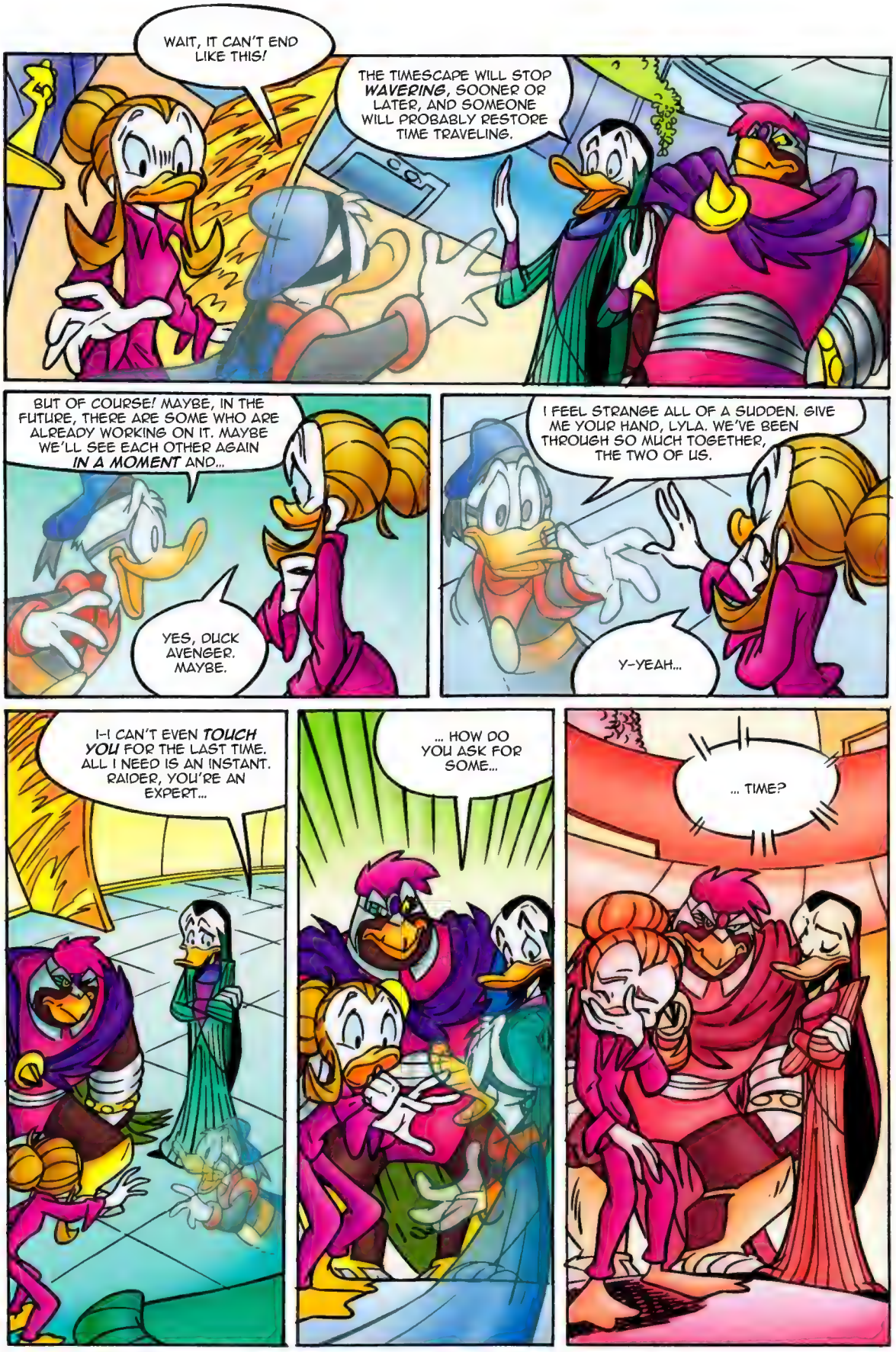

LET'S SAY THAT THIS WATER REPRESENTS THE TIMESCAPE! THE QUESTION IS... WHAT PURPOSE DOES THE TIME POLICE SERVE?
TO PREVENT THE RAIDS OF TIME PIRATES, I BELIEVE.
IT WAS ORIGINALLY TO SIMPLY REGULATE AND LIMIT THE INFLUX OF CHRONONAUTS!
NOW THIS TASK IS GONE. THE ECONOMIC-POLITICAL INTEREST AROUND THE TIME TRAVELS, THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION... TIMES HAVE CHANGED, BUT THE WORLD HASN'T!
FRUSH
HOWEVER, REPEATEDLY STRESSING THE TIMESCAPE HAS FORMED SINGULAR... SHOULD WE CALL THEM... TEMPORAL WAVES?
SIMPLY PUT, THESE WAVES GENERATE THE PHENOMENON OF THE MICROCONTRACTION MIXING UP THE INTERESTING PARTICLES.
THUS, IT'S AN EFFECT AND NOT A CAUSE!
EXACTLY! SOON I'LL MAKE MY THEORY PUBLIC AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY WILL EXPLORE THE PROBLEM.
WHY HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY DONE SO?
IT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TOO GOOD FOR THE TIME POLICE. VOSTOK GAVE US THE CHANCE TO VANQUISH THE ORGANIZATION!

"RIGHT NOW, THE SCIENTISTS OF THE CRIMINAL CARTEL ARE SURELY PROBING THE CHRONOSTABILIZER, ONLY TO REALIZE THAT..."
IT'S PRACTICALLY *EMPTY!*
EEEH?
VOSTOK?
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY, SIR. I FOLLOWED ALL THE *TESTS* PERSONALLY PERFORMED...
... BY *ODIN EIDOLON!*
WAIT A MINUTE! I'VE FOUND SOMETHING *ACTIVE*, ALTHOUGH IT'S WELL SCREENED.
I THINK THAT IT'S A...
TRACER!
HANDS IN THE AIR! YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!
I...
IT'S USELESS TO TRY TO WARN THE MEN, MR. NEWTON! IF THE *SPECIAL TEAMS* OF THE TIME POLICE HAVE COME THIS FAR, THERE IS A REASON.


HI HI!
EH? WHAT'S GOTTEN TO YOU?
NOTHING, SHE'S LAUGHING!
I WAS JUST THINKING OF THE PERSON WHO'S GAINED THE MOST OF THIS WHOLE STORY!
EIDOLON? THE DUCK AVENGER?
HELLO EVERYONE!
THE RAIDER! STEP ASIDE, EIDOLON!
RELAX, DUCK AVENGER! YOU DON'T WANT TO CHASE HIM LIKE YOU DID WITH VOSTOK?
EEEH? ARE YOU SAYING THAT HE IS ALSO ON OUR SIDE?
NOT EXACTLY. THIS GENTLEMAN PRESENT HERE IS A BUSINES-SMAN.
CALL ME THE RIGHT WAY. I'M A MERCENARY.
HERE'S YOUR COMP-ENSATION. ALTHOUGH A TRANSFER OF FUNDS WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE CONVENIENT.
I DON'T TRUST BANKS. IN MY OWN WAY, I'M ALSO AN OLD-FASHIONED TYPE.
MAY I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT'S GOING ON IS THAT WE TOOK PRECAUTIONS, HIRING THE RAIDER TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CHRONOSTABILIZER ARRIVED AT ITS DESTINATION.
INITIALLY, I WAS ONLY SUPPOSED TO LEAD THE TIME POLICE TO THE ORGANIZATION, BUT THEY HAD THE GOOD IDEA OF CHANGING BASE.


THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO GIVE HIM IMMUNITY, BUT HE PREFERRED HARD CASH!
I DON'T WANT TO REDEEM MYSELF, JUST DISAPPEAR FROM CIRCULATION. AT LEAST FOR A WHILE.
I KNOW WHAT YOU THINK, BUT I'M NOT A TRAITOR. I DID MY JOB, RAIDING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE END!
NOW I UNDERSTAND THE PHRASE ABOUT THE FUTURE.
IF THERE'S NO SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF THE MICRO-CONTRACTION, TIME TRAVEL WILL ALSO END.
AND IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT... RETIREMENT.
BUT... WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME? WHY KEEP ME IN THE DARK OF EVERYTHING? ME AND LYLA RISKED...
THEN WE WOULD HAVE THROWN A WELL THOUGHT OUT PLAN INTO THE AIR!
I COULDN'T. WE DISCUSSED THE MATTER IN AN OFFICE FULL OF BUGS AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, VOSTOK CAME.
ALSO, I NEED YOUR COMPLETE AVAILABILITY TO DECEIVE THE CRIMINAL CARTEL. WITHOUT YOUR CONTRIBUTION, SINCERE AND CONVINCED, THEY WOULD SURELY HAVE SENSED THE TRAP.
YEAH! WE WERE TWO INDISPENSABLE FOOLS!
FINALLY, IF I'D TOLD YOU THAT YOU ONLY HAD TO WAIT, WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IT?
OF COURSE NOT! YOU KNOW THAT I CAN'T STAND STILL! BUT THEN, WAIT FOR WHAT?


THE CHRONOSTATION'S TECHNICIANS HAD THE TASK OF VERIFYING MY HYPOTHESIS REGARDING YOUR *UNSTABLE* MOLECULAR COMPOSITION.
WHAT THE... I'M BECOMING *IMPALPABLE!*
IT'S REALLY HAPPENING, THEN.
YEAH, BUT I DION'T THINK IT WOULD BE SO SOON.
HEY! I WOULD ALSO LIKE SOME CLARIFICATION!
GRAT GRAT
THIS IS DUE TO THE CHRONOTRAVEL. LET'S SAY THAT IN YOUR CASE THE TRANSFER COULDN'T HAPPEN CORRECTLY.
THERE'S LITTLE DO TO, DUCK AVENGER. YOU'RE *ANACHRONISTIC!*
LAY OFF THE INSULTS! TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT I CAN'T TOUCH YOU!
HE MEANS THAT YOU'RE NOT PART OF THIS TIME. YOU'RE GOING HOME, WITHOUT EXPENSIVE AND CUMBERSOME MACHINERIES!
I-IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
AND YOU, LYLA?
I BELONG TO THIS ERA. MY PLACE IS HERE.
THE TIME POLICE STILL EXISTS, BUT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO A NEW GOVERNM-ENTAL STRUCTURE.
NUISANCES. ALWAYS NUISANCES.


WAIT, IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS!
THE TIMESCAPE WILL STOP *WAVERING*, SOONER OR LATER, AND SOMEONE WILL PROBABLY RESTORE TIME TRAVELING.
BUT OF COURSE! MAYBE, IN THE FUTURE, THERE ARE SOME WHO ARE ALREADY WORKING ON IT. MAYBE WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN *IN A MOMENT* AND...
YES, DUCK AVENGER. MAYBE.
I FEEL STRANGE ALL OF A SUDDEN. GIVE ME YOUR HAND, LYLA. WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH TOGETHER, THE TWO OF US.
Y-YEAH...
I-I CAN'T EVEN *TOUCH YOU* FOR THE LAST TIME. ALL I NEED IS AN INSTANT. RAIDER, YOU'RE AN EXPERT...
... HOW DO YOU ASK FOR SOME...
... TIME?

ONCE, I WOULD HAVE KNOWN HOW TO ANSWER, DUCK AVENGER. BUT TODAY...
BRIIP BIIP
I'M HOME, TRIP!
I'M...
HMPF!
FUNNY. MANY WILL ASK FOR THE REASON OF MY GESTURE, BUT FEW WILL UNDERSTAND THAT I HAD TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE.
SNO-REEEEE!
SNO-REEEEE!
AND HERE IT IS, MY FUTURE, WHO'S SNORING BLISSFULLY WAITING TO GROW UP.
SNO-REEE-SNO!

EVERYTHING HAS FINALLY COME BACK INTO PLACE. EVERY MOLECULE HAS AGAIN FOUND ITS SPACE. EVERY SECOND HAS RETURNED INTO THE SCORE I HAVE WRITTEN.
I, WHO CONTROLS THE HOURS AND THE MINUTES. I WHO AM...
3:33
SOMEONE WHO TALKS TOO MUCH!
AND WHAT DO YOU WANT? THE GATES ARE ALL CLOSED BY NOW. A DUCK WHO HAD GOTTEN LOST MADE IT THROUGH THE LAST THAT WAS OPEN.
DON'T PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW. WE'VE ALREADY SEEN EACH OTHER AND I REPEAT THAT THIS IS MY DREAM!
SO THOSE WERE YOUR IRREVERENT WORDS COMING FROM NOWHERE! STILL, YOU DO HAVE A FAMILIAR FACE...
PERHAPS YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, PAL. I USE THIS SPACE TO DREAM MORE INTERESTING THINGS THAN YOUR CUCKOO CLOCKS.
HEY! W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM!
... GET OUT!
SURE, SURE! EVERYONE SAYS THAT. AND NOW...
TUMP
I USUALLY RESPECT THE NEIGHBOR, BUT I HAVE TO WAKE UP IN A FEW HOURS AND GO TO TECHNOSCHOOL. AND I DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE.
FINE

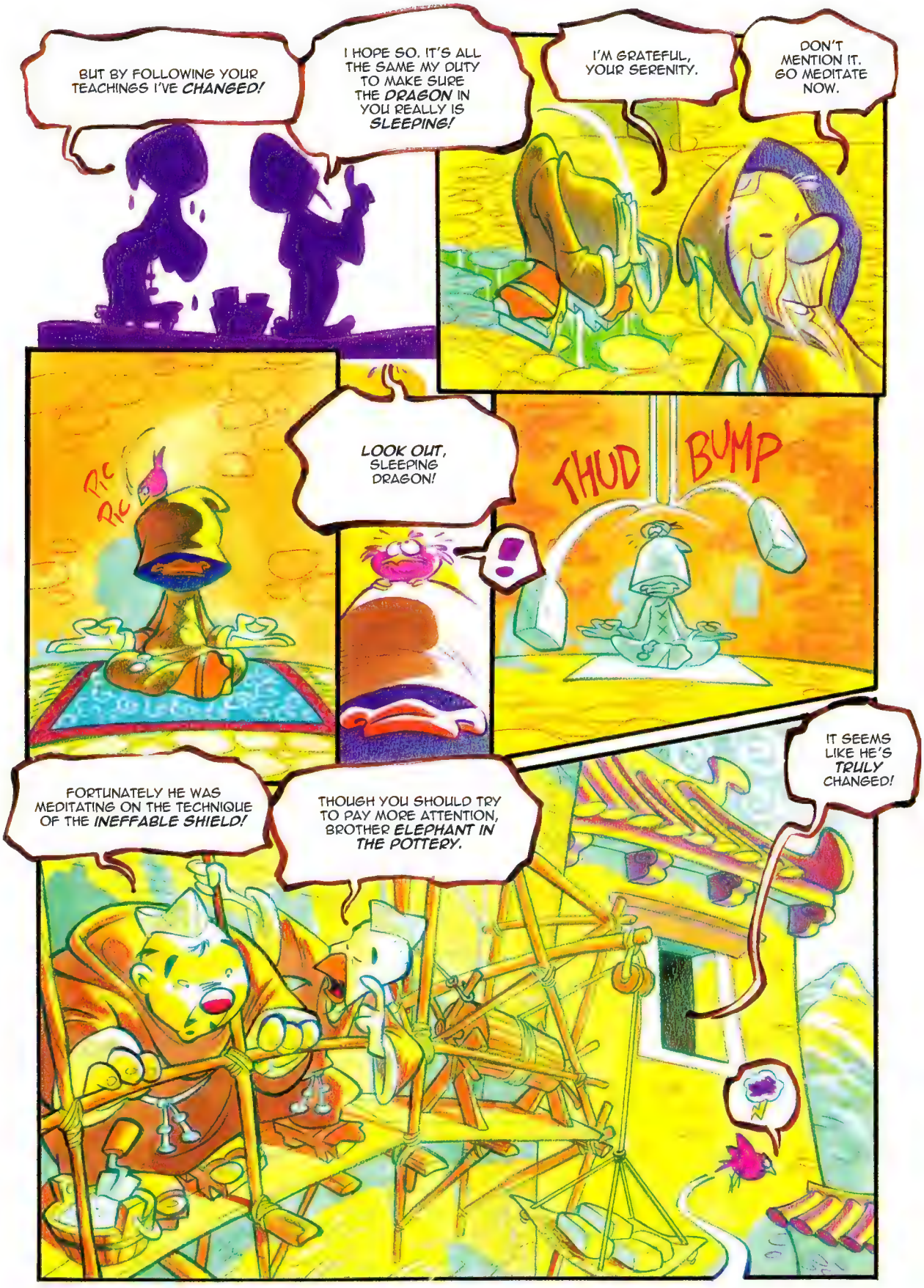
ZEN AND QUANTUM PHYSICS

Walt Disney

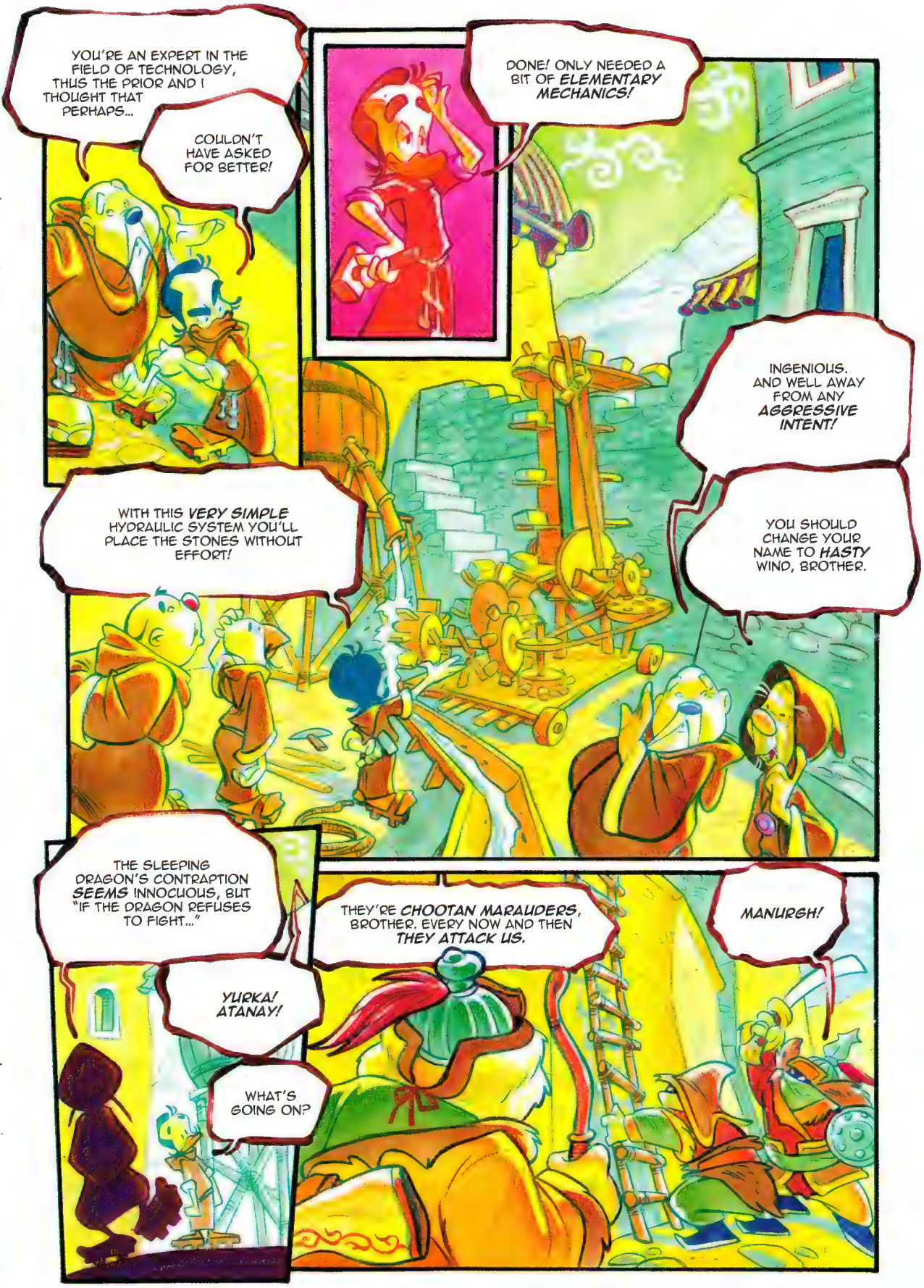
THE NO DRAGON'S SLEEP

"IF THE DRAGON REFUSES TO FIGHT, PERHAPS IT'S ONLY SLOTHFUL. BUT IF IT IGNORES THE MOSQUITO, IT'S TRULY ASLEEP."
BROTHER SLEEPING DRAGON!
TELL ME... GLUB!
SPLAASH
"WHEN YOU WERE EVERETT DUCKLAIR, YOU WERE DRIVEN TO CREATE APOCALYPTIC WEAPONS!"
WHY DID YOU DO THAT, VENERABLE PRIOR?
TO TEST YOUR LEVEL OF PERFECTION.
ARGH! I DID IT AGAIN!
YOU CAME HERE TO DHASAM-BUL TO LEARN HOW TO DOMINATE THE AGGRESSIVE PART OF YOURSELF.

I-PKNA-ED-43

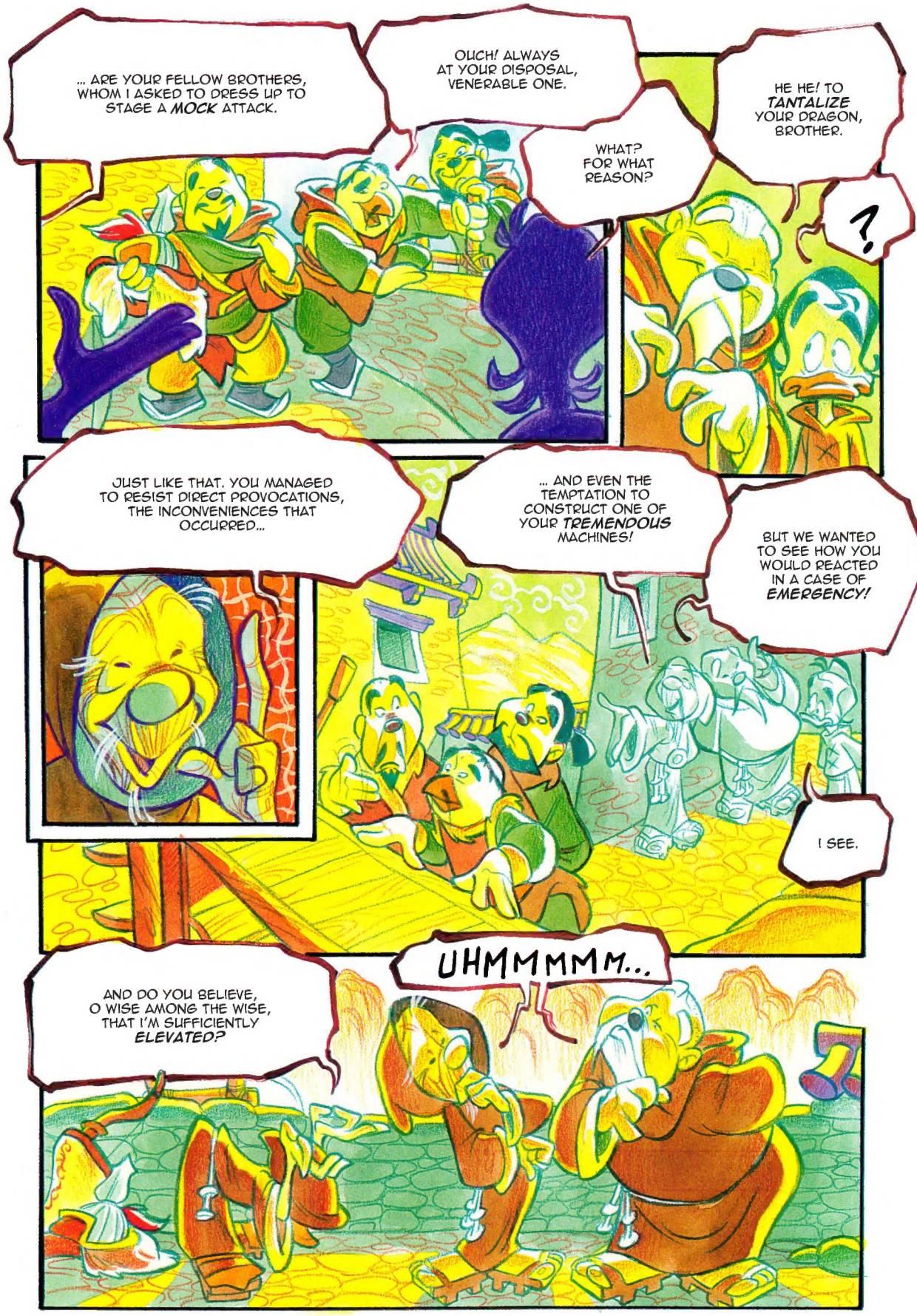

BUT BY FOLLOWING YOUR TEACHINGS I'VE *CHANGED!*
I HOPE SO. IT'S ALL THE SAME MY DUTY TO MAKE SURE THE *DRAGON* IN YOU REALLY IS *SLEEPING!*
I'M GRATEFUL, YOUR SERENITY.
DON'T MENTION IT. GO MEDITATE NOW.
RC RC
LOOK OUT, SLEEPING DRAGON!
!
THUD
BUMP
FORTUNATELY HE WAS MEDITATING ON THE TECHNIQUE OF THE *INEFFABLE SHIELD!*
THOUGH YOU SHOULD TRY TO PAY MORE ATTENTION, BROTHER *ELEPHANT IN THE POTTERY.*
IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S *TRULY* CHANGED!

THE ACCIDENT DIDN'T EVEN GRAZE HIS CONCENTRATION.
APPEARANCE IS A SMILING ENEMY, BROTHER DEEP WIND!
AS IT SAYS IN THE SACRED TEXTS, "IF THE DRAGON REFUSES TO FIGHT..."
RIGHT. SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
PUT HIM TO THE TEST. HIS WEAKNESS IS HIS INGENUITY.
IT PAINS ME TO INTERRUPT YOUR MEDITATION, BROTHER.
DON'T BE SORRY, MASTER. CAN I BE OF USE?
MAYBE. THE WAYS WE REPAIR THE WALLS OF THE MONASTERY ARE ANTIQUE, BUT ALSO FATIGUING AND INEFFICIENT.
PANT...

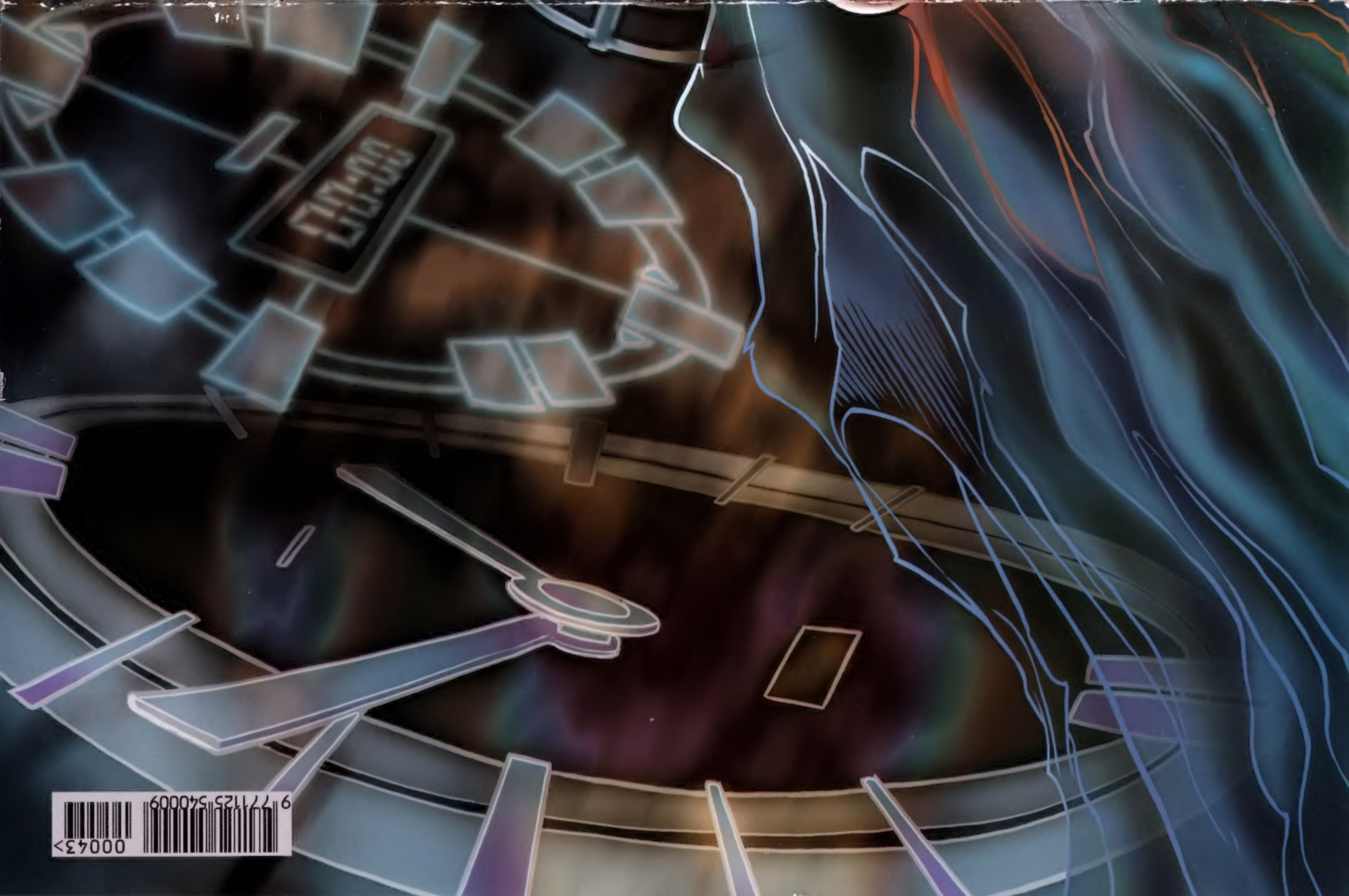

YOU'RE AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF TECHNOLOGY, THUS THE PRIOR AND I THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS...
COULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR BETTER!
DONE! ONLY NEEDED A BIT OF ELEMENTARY MECHANICS!
INGENIOUS. AND WELL AWAY FROM ANY AGGRESSIVE INTENT!
WITH THIS VERY SIMPLE HYDRAULIC SYSTEM YOU'LL PLACE THE STONES WITHOUT EFFORT!
YOU SHOULD CHANGE YOUR NAME TO HASTY WIND, BROTHER.
THE SLEEPING DRAGON'S CONTRAPTION SEEMS INNOCUOUS, BUT "IF THE DRAGON REFUSES TO FIGHT..."
THEY'RE CHOOTAN MARAUDERS, BROTHER. EVERY NOW AND THEN THEY ATTACK US.
MANURGH!
YURKA! ATANAY!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

THEY KNOW THAT WE'RE DEDICATED TO PEACE AND THAT WE WON'T OPPOSE RESISTANCE.
GLOM! WE'RE DOOMED!
THAT'S NOT SAID!
JUST HAVE TO OPEN THE BARRIER AND ORIENTATE THE POSITIONER!
WHEN I TELL YOU, PULL THAT LEVER, BROTHER ELEPHANT!
AS YOU WISH, BROTHER DRAGON.
THERE. NOW!
DONE!
T-R-RANK
SWISH
VRROOOOOUMBLE
HUH?
ARGH!
VRAAADAAASH

WE SHOWED THEM THE ADVANTAGES OF A LESS *HOSTILE* APPROACH!
THROUGH AN INCONCEIVABLE ACT OF *VIOLENCE*, BROTHER!
I'M AFRAID YOUR TRAINING WILL HAVE TO *START ALL OVER AGAIN* AND...
FORGIVE ME, UNREACHABLE TRANQUILITY, BUT YOU'RE JUDGING FROM THE *EXTERIORITY*.
BEFORE ASKING BROTHER ELEPHANT TO PULL THE LEVER, I PROJECTED THE *INEFFABLE SHIELD* ON THE CHOOTANS.
SO THE BOULDERS ONLY *SLOWED THEIR MOMENTUM*, WITHOUT HURTING THEM!
SBUFF!
BETTER THAT WAY, BROTHER DRAGON. BECAUSE THOSE MARAUDERS...


... ARE YOUR FELLOW BROTHERS, WHOM I ASKED TO DRESS UP TO STAGE A MOCK ATTACK.
OUCH! ALWAYS AT YOUR DISPOSAL, VENERABLE ONE.
WHAT? FOR WHAT REASON?
HE HE! TO TANTALIZE YOUR DRAGON, BROTHER.
?
JUST LIKE THAT. YOU MANAGED TO RESIST DIRECT PROVOCATIONS, THE INCONVENIENCES THAT OCCURRED...
... AND EVEN THE TEMPTATION TO CONSTRUCT ONE OF YOUR TREMENDOUS MACHINES!
BUT WE WANTED TO SEE HOW YOU WOULD REACTED IN A CASE OF EMERGENCY!
I SEE.
AND DO YOU BELIEVE, O WISE AMONG THE WISE, THAT I'M SUFFICIENTLY ELEVATED?
UHMMMMM...

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH *WE DON'T KNOW.*
YES. YOU STILL HAVE TO *PASS THE TEST.*
THIS IS *ABSURD*, O UNREACHABLE ONE. I'VE TAKEN BUCKETS OF WATER AND ROCKS TO THE HEAD!
WHAT?
YOU'VE HAD ME BUILD *SUPERFLUOUS CONTRAPTIONS* AND PLAY THE ROLE OF HERO!
AND US, THEN?
MAY I KNOW WHAT OTHER *INSUPERABLE TEST* YOU WANT ME TO UNDERGO?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS, BROTHER *IRASCIBLE* DRAGON?
THIS WAS THE TEST.
GROAN. MAYBE IT'S BETTER THAT I GO MEDITATE A LITTLE MORE!
END


00043>
9 771125 540009